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THURSDAY, APRIL 8TH, 2010

MARY'S 38 YEARS ON THE BENCH Retiring magistrate recalls being thrown in at the deep end!

THE second longest-serving magistrate in the whole of Britain has just retired from the bench at Barry.

Mary Mossford was 70 recently and the rules state that JPs have to stand down before their 70th birthday.

Mrs Mossford, who lives in Penarth, was only 32 when she was first appointed to the bench – one of the youngest magistrates ever. She has now completed 38 years in the post.

"There is a trend today for younger magistrates, but in those days I was the baby of the court,"



Photograph by JEFF BAKER.

she recalled. "There was no training and no interviews – you were simply proposed by someone and the Lord Chancellor said yes or no – and then you just went in at the deep end. I was taking part in decisions on my first day. You learnt the ropes as you went along."

Mrs Mossford said that everything had changed now, with magistrates training for a year and sitting in court as observers before they start sitting. "When I started, there

was a court in Penarth which closed and then I sat in Cowbridge, which has also closed. The only court we have left in the Vale is at Barry."

Mrs Mossford recalled that when she was first appointed, all lady magistrates wore hats in court – a practice which has now died out – but she revived the custom on her last day by sporting a splendid hat to her farewell ceremony when she was thanked for her years of service by David Taylor, chairman of the bench. Garth James, one of the solicitors, also paid tribute to her work.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

Easter weekend sees the great getaway – to Barry!

YOUNGSTERS' JOY AS FUN FAIR REOPENS



ABOVE: Cup of tea anyone? Youngsters in High Street on Saturday enjoyed taking part in the Easter bonnet parade and a Mad Hatter's Tea Party!

DESPITE changeable weather last weekend, thousands of people took the opportunity to attend Easter events throughout the Vale, and in Barry.

The chilly weather didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the large crowds heading for the excitement at Barry Island. Pat Collins, whose family have provided entertainment on the Island since 1926, said: "We've been absolutely delighted with the turnout, and people came well-prepared, because at times it has been very cold."

"On Monday, I was on the promenade in my cap, coat, scarf and gloves, and people still turned up in their numbers."

"On one of the stalls we have a red Dragon cuddly toy for the children and we moved more

of them this Easter than in weeks and weeks last year – a lot of them are bought by English people!

"We've had people from as far away as the west country and the Midlands."

To the delight of many youngsters, the Pleasure Park, which has operated on Barry Island for more than 90 years, re-opened for the spring and summer season on Good Friday.

In Barry's High Street on Saturday, local children attended the popular Easter bonnet parade.

Anthony Hopkins, the chairman of High Street Traders, who organised the event, told The GEM: "Despite the weather, we had a number of high quality entries which made it very difficult for the judges."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

'Find solution to demand for Welsh medium education' 'WORK TOGETHER IN VALE' – CALL

DEMAND for places at a Welsh medium school in Barry is outstripping supply.

There are 63 Vale youngsters hoping to go to Ysgol Gymraeg St Curig in the town but just 60 places available.

The Conservative parliamentary candidate for the Vale, Alun Cairns AM, said that while he was pleased that demand for Welsh medium educa-

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

tion was increasing locally, it was causing a headache to both schools and education officers.

He explained: "We have an issue at St Curig's where in September there will be 63 children competing for 60 places."

"Strict rules about class numbers mean that it may not be possible to

accommodate the three extra children, although I am hoping that a sensible solution can be found."

Last month, The GEM reported on how a temporary classroom was likely to be sited at Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg in Cowbridge to accommodate all the pupils who want to start there in September.

Mr Cairns, a Welsh

speaker himself, said: "The Vale Council is doing its best to cater for this demand for Welsh medium education with news of a new Welsh unit in Llantwit Major, which will ease pressure on Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg."

"I understand that there are also plans for a new Welsh medium school in Barry, so in the long term this issue will be addressed."

"I am calling upon the local authority, the school and parents to work together in a bid to deal with this problem in the short term."

"Although free school transport would be laid on for any pupils who have to attend a school outside Barry, I can understand the anxieties of parents on this."

"Everyone must put their heads together to come up with a solution that satisfies all parties."

The head of strategic planning and performance at the council, Paula Ham, said: "The council has worked closely with schools and parents to accommodate all applications for Welsh medium school places for September, 2010."

"We are currently consulting on the establishment of new Welsh medium schools in Barry and Llantwit Major, with the aim of meeting growing demand in the future."

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DASTARDLY PIETER VAN BLEUW!

April 1st exclusive caused quite a stir!

I WOULD like to congratulate The GEM on its April 1 'spoo' about a proposed smelting plant located near Ogmogre by Sea on the Heritage Coast!

After an initial near-heart attack, followed by a swift realisation that it was only a joke, I can confirm that my phone was red hot with

calls from concerned GEM readers.

I was able to reassure them that there was absolutely no truth in the story and referred them to the date - printed above the piece!

Well done, GEM, for injecting a little humour into our daily lives - even though I had some extra work landing in my lap as a result!

Alun Cairns, Regional AM.

Man the barricades!

I READ with abject horror The GEM 'exclusive' on last week's front page, regarding plans for a mammoth coke burning blast furnace and all that goes with it on the Heritage coast.

This is our country and surely it is for us

and our elected representatives to decide what is and is not built here on the basis of what is in our best interests - and it is not for Greater Europe to have these things "forced through".

To the barricades boys - and altogether sing 'Tongues of fire on Idris flaring news of foe-men dear declaring....'

David Alexander, Barry

Good spoo! (or was it real?)

CONGRATULATIONS on your April 1 spoo concerning the "proposed blast furnace" destined for Ogmogre-by-Sea!

It is good to read some humour in the press these days to lighten the depressing economic news we are forced to endure.

We are so used to reading about government initiatives which have not been thought through or costed, that the proposal you described could just be one of these.

Ogmogre-by-Sea has no deep water offshore to accommodate laden ore carriers, no rail links, or commercial road access - otherwise it is ideal!

More to the point, the fact that existing steel-works are regularly closing due to lack of demand, would make such a proposal a suitable candidate upon which to waste taxpayers' cash on the inevitable inducement grant which seems mandatory before any large inward investment.

Keep up the humorous good work, we need it.....or was it for real?

Roger Fuller, Bonvilston

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We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

Will Van Bleuw never learn...?

CONGRATULATIONS! The GEM's ace reporters have achieved yet another exclusive scoop involving Pieter Van Bleuw.

These dedicated newshounds are to be congratulated on their magnificent efforts in discovering the latest deadly plan designed to wreck the tranquility and 'green' credentials of the Vale.

Once again, Van Bleuw has been exposed for the dastardly villain that he is, but he is pitting his wits against The GEM's intrepid investigators who previously uncovered his other equally appalling proposals. *Will he never learn?*

Interesting that these always seem to surface in the spring, usually at the very beginning of April.
Maureen Bennett, Llanblethian

Van Bleuw's plan will boost jobs!

I THINK Mr Pieter Van Bleuw's "Euro backed blast furnace plan" would bring a much-needed boost to jobs and investment to Llantwit Major.

(The GEM front page, last week)

I say demolish those old buildings like the Town Hall, St. Illtyds Church and narrow streets, allowing the creation of a new motorway link from Bridgend via St. Donats to service the new docks at the beach, facilitating easy access for all those big lorries.

Cover Colhugh Meadows with concrete and create a designer outlet - no need to worry about funding a new footpath. Plenty of job opportunities while we are waiting for the St

Athan project to be approved.

Close the three small competing supermarkets and replace them with one big Tesco in the town centre. By expansion we could turn the town into a city; who wants all those nice fields and cute little lambs running round? Just makes the place look untidy.

The ideal location of St Donats Castle could become Mr. Bleuw's new adult entertainment production studios and replace Lord Attenborough's Bridgend film studios, which seem to have mysteriously evaporated.

Perhaps all these improvements will encourage Arriva to run a more regular and reliable train service.

Winners all round!

James Wild, Llantwit Major.

Red Kites seen

WITH reference to Red Kite sighting in the Vale, last year on Sunday, May 31, at 4pm (I was so excited I went home and wrote it in my diary), I was walking up Dock View Road, Barry, when I heard a commotion in the sky above me.

When I looked up, I was shocked to see seagulls mobbing three Red Kites. The Kites weren't bothered by this; they just soared a bit higher and carried on towards Sully direction.

R Hocking, Barry

We welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

Sewage is the real problem

EVERY week personal encounters with dog and horse mess appear to be met with an almost religious fanatical outburst of support and disgust.

Having been inoculated for most diseases, I regularly walk at Watch Tower Bay, immunised against sewage and toilet waste.

Animal mess is a nuisance, I agree, but at least can be seen when left. However, sewage problems polluting the

local shores cannot be easily recognised when dispersed with natural mud.

No doubt, with coming elections and the drive to get votes and tenants to move into the hundreds of new properties on the 'waterfront', some menial will be given a mission to check out this problem.

I am sure his expenses will cover wellies, rubber gloves, inoculations which 'Elf 'n' Safety' will demand. Oh, and a bucket and spade, a very large bucket.

Roy A Clark, Barry

NSPCC still needs your help

ON behalf of the NSPCC Cymru/Wales, thank you for your kind and generous donation of £160 towards our work to end cruelty to children.

While the majority of our children are able to enjoy a safe and happy childhood, even today, thousands of children across Wales face a very different reality. The NSPCC exists to put a stop to the continuing incidence of child abuse that has such a terrible impact on the lives of children in our country.

Our work to increase the awareness of prob-

lems facing children and increase our ability to identify and take action against perpetrators of abuse, has already helped to prevent child cruelty on a bigger scale than ever before.

Your support in this is vital. We rely on the support of the general public for 87 per cent of our funding. Without your support we would have to close our services within six months.

If you would like to know more about the work of the NSPCC, either visit our website at www.nspcc.org.uk or call 0207 650 6882.

Nerys Sales, Cardiff (Corporate fundraising manager)

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL APRIL 15)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
08 Thur	02.17	7.2	15.09	7.1
09 Fri	03.42	7.6	16.21	7.6
10 Sat	04.41	8.2	17.11	8.1
11 Sun	05.27	8.4	17.52	8.6
12 Mon	06.06	8.8	18.24	8.8
13 Tues	06.42	9.2	18.59	9.3
14 Wed	07.12	9.4	19.29	9.5
15 Thur	07.47	9.5	20.03	9.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

USEFUL VALE INFORMATION

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111
(Emergency number 999)

COASTGUARD 01792 366534

FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188

HELPLINES

Alcohol and drugs:

Drinkline 0800 9178282

National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600

DASH 01656 650686

SSAFA - Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families 01656 785435

RAF Association Welfare Officer

01495 249522/01446 740522

SAMARITANS (emotional support)

01656 662333

VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755

MENTAL DISTRESS

(Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

Mental Health Helpline:

Freephone 0800 132 737

MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan

01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk

CHILDLINE 0800 1111 -

www.childline.org.uk

Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.

RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.

AIDS helplines 0800 567123.

Child abuse - NSPCC 0808 800 5000.

Alcoholics Anonymous - (24 hours) 0845 7697555.

Drug Aid (24 hours) 09290 881000.

Inroads Drugs Project - 42, Holton Road, Barry.

01446 404040.

Vale Victim & Witness Support -

Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street,

Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's

SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 4.30am (Wed 11am-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999. Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.

Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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50 years of bliss for Wyn and Ronwyn



Vale Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams and the Mayoress, his wife, Joan, popped along to congratulate Barry couple Wyn and Ronwyn Thomas on their diamond wedding anniversary.

VALE of Glamorgan Mayor, Coun Emlyn Williams and the Mayoress, his wife, Joan, recently joined family and friends to celebrate the diamond wedding anniversary of Barry couple Wyn and Ronwyn Thomas. The Barry-born couple, who are both aged 82, have lived at Broad Street for more than 50 years. They welcomed a large number of family, including their five daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren, and visitors to an 'At Home' celebration. Mr Thomas, who is a keen bowler and a member of the Barry Athletic club, was a driver for a number of firms for the majority of his working life, and Mrs Thomas worked in the civil service, before bringing up her family. Among the many congratulatory messages for the couple, was one aired nationally by Barry-born weatherman, Derek Brockway, during his usual evening slot on the BBC Wales news.

NSPCC BOOSTED

A VERY successful quiz evening was held recently by the Barry committee of the NSPCC when the amount raised was £450. Many thanks to all who supported the event.

Hilary Kelly (Press Secretary)

Traffic lights are 'concern' for Plaid AM

CONCERNS about traffic signals at the Merrie Harrier and Barons Court road junctions in Penarth have been raised by Plaid AM Chris Franks.

The former Vale councillor, said: "Motorists have complained to me of unacceptable delays in relation to traffic travelling from Dinas Powys to Cardiff, and I contacted the Vale Council as a result. My concern is that with an upturn in the economy, the issue of traffic congestion at these busy junctions will worsen."

He pointed out that the council blamed increasing traffic levels for the problem and had

said nothing further can be done to ease congestion.

In his response to the Plaid AM, Coun Geoff Cox, cabinet member for visible and building services, had stated: "Both sets of traffic signals incorporate the MOVA system which reacts to actual traffic flows and, therefore, responds to demand. Any delays being experienced through the junctions are as a result of ever increasing vehicle ownership and the physical constraints of the existing highway infrastructure."

"There is no further adjustment possible to the traffic signals to increase the throughput of vehicles."

Vale's Easter weekend

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

He added: "After much deliberating, our eventual winners were for those up to eight years old, Isabel, Kate and Emily; in the over eights, it was Jessica, Chloe and Paige, and the fancy dress winners were Josh, Rayne and Henno. "Following the bonnet parade up and down High Street, it was into

Cubana's Café Bar for The Mad Hatters Tea Party. All in all it was a fantastic day."

Local broadcasters, Bro Radio 98.1 FM hosted the event live on air and staged party games with Easter eggs for the youngsters.

At Dyffryn Gardens there was an Easter trail, an American Civil War re-enactment, face painting, story telling, craft

workshops and bouncy castles.

Cosmeston Medieval Village in Penarth hosted 'Life in 14th Century Wales' along with an Easter egg hunt - a hunt was also held on Good Friday at Victoria Park in Barry.

(To see Glyn Evans' photographs of High Street's bonnet parade, turn to page 16).

Security work will change face of the airport

WORK began this week on a new layout outside Cardiff Airport's terminal building to "comply with security requirements and longer-term development needs."

The airport has to implement security requirements to increase the distance between vehicles and the terminal building.

Passengers will have the option of a new 'Priority drop & go' area where a £1 fee will be charged or a free drop off and pick up area in Car Park 1.

When completed, the free drop off and pick up

area will be available in the renamed Car Park 1, formerly the Long Stay 2 car park, with a short walk to the terminal building, and a 24/7 shuttle bus will be also available for passengers requiring assistance. The first 10 minutes will be free of charge, with the usual parking rates applied thereafter. Blue badge holders are entitled to 20 minutes free of charge.

Passengers will still be able to drop-off outside the terminal building using the 'Priority drop & go' area. The facility will cost £1 for up to 10 minutes and 20 minutes for disabled blue badge holders.

A 'priority pick-up' area will also be avail-

able which remains in the Short Stay car park outside the terminal building, where a fee of £1 will be charged for a 20 minute stay.

Steve Hodgetts, director of business development explained: "This work forms part of the long term development of Wales' national airport and is necessary to comply with the latest Government security advice."

"During construction works, temporary drop off and pick up arrangements will be in place where all vehicles visiting the airport will be directed to the existing short stay car park for free 20 minutes drop off and pick up."

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Gosth Ki Boti	£2.60	Chilli Paneer	£2.25
Tandoor Champen	£2.75	Machi Tikka	£2.25
Mixed Tandoori	£2.95	Tiffin Platter	£5.50

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Chicken Tikka Masala	£5.50	Balti Exotic	£5.50

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Chicken Tikka	£6.75	Vegetable	£4.75

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Chana Masala	£2.10	Aloo Baingan	£2.10

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Keema Nan	£1.75	Garlic Nan	£1.75
Peshwari Nan	£1.75	Cheese Nan	£1.75
Chips	£1.25	Cucumber Raittha	£0.95
Papadom	£0.45	Mango Chutney	£0.60
Lime Pickle	£0.60	Onion Salad	£0.60

DRINKS

Coke	70p	330ml	£1.00	500ml	£1.65	1.5l	£1.51
Diet Coke	70p	330ml	£1.00	500ml	£1.65	1.5l	£1.51
Tango or Sprite	70p	330ml					

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JOIN OUR CURRY LOVERS CLUB ONLINE

FAIRTRADE LESSONS FOR LOCAL PUPILS ON COTTON PICKING AND POTATO PRINTING!



A BUSY Fairtrade fortnight came to an end recently at St Helen's RC Junior School in Barry.

The children learned about the importance of Fairtrade by watching power points, lessons on how cotton is picked and used, competitions, films and potato printing.

The two weeks ended with the results of the Fairtrade football/rugby ball raffle and the design a teapot competition with the overall winner being Sophie Birt in year-6.

"The whole school marked the end of the event by taking part in a Mad Hatter's Tea Party, eating the homemade Fairtrade cakes and orange juice. Special thanks must go to Mrs O'Hare who gave up her time to help all the pupils make the cakes with Fairtrade ingredients, donated by the Co-Operative at Weycock Cross, Barry," a spokesperson said.



Overall winner of Fairtrade competitions, Sophie Birt.

RIGHT: Members of the school council enjoy some Fairtrade orange juice.



Enjoying the Mad Hatter's tea party.



Mrs Hughes hands out the cakes to the pupils.



Cheers to a successful fortnight.

All Saints dance and dress up for Sport Relief



The All Saints dance troupe take a bow.

THE staff and pupils at All Saints Church in Wales Primary School love to dress up, and recently they came to school dressed as their favourite sporting heroes to raise funds for Sport Relief.

Everyone took part in a day of enjoyable sporting activities and the highlight of the fun was a demonstration by the All Saints dance troupe, choreographed by the year-5 teacher, Miss Saunders.

The pupils had performed their routine recently at the 'Best Foot Forward' Schools' Dance Festival at the Barry Memorial Hall.

Headteacher Richard Ware said that he was pleased to see the children having fun while raising money for a worthy charity.



Above and right: Pupils have fun while raising funds for Sport Relief.



Laura's award for sending luxuries from Barry to Helmand

RIGHT: Lauren Bjegovic from Barry collects her BT 'Seen and Heard' award from BT's Larry Stone and Olympic diver Leon Taylor, who is a member of BT's team of London 2012 ambassadors.

A Barry teenager has been recognised at the BT 'Seen and Heard' awards, held at the Houses of Parliament, for her work on an "inspirational" project.

Lauren Bjegovic, aged 17, and her friends from Barry were recognised for her 'Parcels for Soldiers' project.

Lauren's brother and friends are currently on the frontline in Afghanistan and she knows how important morale is to them.

She began raising awareness of the soldiers' contribution by selling armbands, organising a non-uniform days at school and collecting parcels of luxury items to be sent to the soldiers



in Helmand.

The 'Seen and Heard' awards, organised jointly by BT and the UK Youth Parliament (UKYP), are held each year.

They celebrate individuals who use speaking and listening skills to improve their own lives, and those of people around them, by breaking down communication barriers - to bring about positive change, not only with their parents - but within the wider community.

Vale Magistrates Court cases

JOHN VINCENT EDWARDS (29) of Tennyson Road, Penarth, admitted damaging the window of a car to the value of £100, and assault.

He was given a community order and must complete 200 hours unpaid work in the next 12 months.

He must pay £100 in compensation and £85 prosecution costs also.

SCOTT BOWEN (34) of St Nicholas Close, Barry, admitted being in possession of an offensive weapon, namely a knuckleduster.

He was made subject to a community order and must complete 200 hours of unpaid work within the next 12 months.

He also has to pay £85 prosecution costs.

CHRISTOPHER DAVID JAMES BURGESS (19) of Hillfort Close, Ely, Cardiff, admitted criminal damage to the front door of the Bear's Head public house in Penarth costing £179.92.

He was fined £100 and was told to pay compensation of £179.92 to the public house.

Magistrates also ordered a payment of £85 towards prosecution costs.

ALEX COLLINS (19) of Windsor Close, Boverton, Llantwit Major, admitted damaging the tiles of a wall in Llantwit Major.

He was fined £85 and told to pay £85 prosecution costs.

TRYSTAN GAMMON (25) of Tensing Terrace, Barry, admitted possession of cannabis, a Class B drug.

Magistrates ordered a fine of £145, compensation of £6.50 to the taxi firm and must also pay £85 prosecution costs.

Barry, admitted making off without paying a £6.50 taxi fare to First Line Taxis.

He was ordered to pay a fine of £145, compensation of £6.50 to the taxi firm and must also pay £85 prosecution costs.

Courtenay's hopes as new Miss Vale!



THE first official pictures have been released of the newly-crowned Miss Vale of Glamorgan 2010, Courtenay Hamilton, who is from Llantwit Major.

Courtenay, a 20-year-old student, who is currently recording a classical album, wowed the judges at the final where she competed against 14 others at the Grand Pavilion in Porthcawl.

Gill Barnes, photographer and make-up artist

at Makeover Magic, which is providing regional winners with a photo portfolio said: "Courtenay was so easy to work with and shows great potential. As you can see from her picture, she makes a fabulous model and is sure to get a lot of modelling work. I think she will go far in Miss Wales."

In the months leading up to the Miss Wales final in June, Courtenay will be raising money for The Joshua Foundation.

To telephone vote for Courtenay for the Miss Wales contest, please dial 0901 293 799 021.

COME AND BE BOWLED OVER AT BARRY CENTRAL BOWLING CLUB RECRUITMENT DAY

at Gladstone Gardens Green, Sunday 25th April at 2.30pm

Any experienced or novice bowler welcome.

Experienced coaches available.

Regular games Wednesdays or Saturdays.

FREE MEMBERSHIP:

For Males & Females for first year

Please contact Gareth Thomas 01446 496111, Haydn Spencer 01446 420722 or Jennifer Morgan 01446 412976

'NO TEARS, BUT I WILL MISS EVERYONE'

Mary retires from the bench - after 38 years

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

"It was an enjoyable occasion and there were no tears, although I will miss everyone," she said. "I felt it was time for me to go."

"Being a magistrate has been a huge commitment and is totally unpaid."

"It is even more onerous these days, because there is constant training, which has to be undertaken to deal with changes in the laws and in sentencing."

"But I sometimes feel that younger magistrates are too tied by sentencing guidelines."

"I always point out that they are just guidelines and you can go against them, provided

you state your reasons in court."

Mrs Mossford comes from a prominent Cardiff family. Her father was Dr Clifford Bence, who was a GP and also Lord Mayor of Cardiff.

He was the first Conservative to represent the Spott ward - which is where his patients lived!

"My family were keen on public service and on giving something back; my father was an alderman for many years."

Mrs Mossford attended Cheltenham Ladies College and met her husband Clive at a tennis tournament. He attended Cheltenham Boys College and was

also from Cardiff. They were born half a mile apart and within three days of each other.

Mrs Mossford worked in the NHS as a physiotherapist and some of her work was with handicapped children in Ely.

She served on the Family Practitioner Committee and also did some conciliation work for the NHS.

Mrs Mossford has also served on a number of magistrates' bodies, including representing Wales on the British Juvenile and Family Courts Committee. She gave that up when she had heart surgery.

Mr Mossford is a chartered accountant, who also helped run his

family monumental masons business in Cardiff.

Mrs Mossford is a keen golfer and hopes to have more time for the sport. She is vice-president of the old girls association of Cheltenham Ladies College and enjoys playing bridge.

She is also a Kentucky Colonel - an honour she shares with many illustrious people, including Sir Winston Churchill.

"I was appointed by the governor because of some work I did to support my husband's firm, which was based in Kentucky."

"We went to a ceremony in the governor's mansion," she recalled.

OBJECTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT: 'White Farm must be saved for town!'

I HAVE a number of objections to the proposed White Farm development.

The developers' application to increase the construction of houses to 189, with more than 100 being four-bedroom houses and 57 being three-bedroom houses

will be a complete over-build, and will be a far greater density than other residential properties in the surrounding area.

The roads in Barry are virtually all pre-war, and we have already got vehicle gridlock on roads leaving and entering the town. This devel-

opment could add up to a further 300 vehicles in this congested area.

The sewerage system is Victorian and cannot cope with the present amount of drainage, as can be seen by the flooding of housing and the school along the Coldbrook drainage route.

Not only will this vast overbuild add greatly to the danger of increased flooding, the buildings will greatly reduce the natural drainage/soak away through the loss of the fields.

The White Farm fields and the public open space are used widely by the residents of Barry and the Colcot,

as can be seen by the pathways around the area caused by the people walking their dogs, or crossing the fields, either going or returning from the town centre.

I thought that the council would have learnt what the people of Barry thought of their public open spaces, when they tried to force through the sale of land on Cemetery Approach!

The Vale Council should put a lot of thought into the sale of all of this green area to

the developers, as it should be retained for the expansion of the cemetery, and the public open space should be retained as a 'green lung' for the people of Barry and the Colcot to enjoy.

In 10 to 15 years' time, if this development is allowed to be built, where are we going to lay our loved ones to rest, or are they going to make cremation compulsory?

Bryn Evans, Barry

White Farm 'mystery'

I REFER to the letter of support for the White Farm campaign in The GEM on April 1, headed 'Don't build on the green field White Farm site' from Coun Rob Curtis.

Like so many other local people, I recall his put-downs against the local community during the successful 'Save Cemetery Approach' campaign to prevent unsuitable housing development on open

space land - saying he was 'sick and tired' of NIMBYS.

Quite rightly, there have been expressions of dissatisfaction from the community and politicians concerning development proposals for White Farm - an area of land barely a stone's throw from Coun Curtis's front door.

So, it is a mystery why he has taken so long to get involved with this latest planning application by the developer.

Derek Hooper, Barry

Bowling club's recruiting drive

BARRY Central is holding a recruitment day at the Gladstone Gardens green on Sunday, April 25, from 2.30pm.

A club spokesman explained: "Any experienced or novice bowler will be welcomed on the day. We have experienced coaches to improve any novice bowlers and any experienced bowler can be assured of a regular game on a Wednesday or a Saturday."

"As an incentive, any male joining the club will benefit from free membership for the first year and be supplied with a 'free of charge' club polo shirt if they are selected to play on a Saturday."

"The ladies section are also not going to

charge any membership fee for the first year for anyone who is recruited on Sunday, April 25."

"We now have a refurbished club house, new management and selection committee and are looking forward to a major progression in the coming season."

"For those who will attend on April 25, there will be free refreshments available and the club bar will be open all the afternoon."

Anyone interested who cannot attend the open afternoon should contact the following:

Gareth Thomas, club captain and hon secretary on 01446 406111; Hadyn Spencer, club chairman and mid week captain on 01446 420722; Jennifer Morgan, ladies secretary on 01446 412976.

Wedding Fayres for Spring 2010

Caerphilly Castle

Caerphilly
Tel. 01443 336106
Sunday, 11th April, 2010
11.00 am - 4.00 pm

The Great House

Laleston, Bridgend
Tel. 01656 657644
Sunday, 18th April, 2010
11.00 am - 4.00 pm

Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff

Includes 3 Bridal Catwalks
Sunday, 9th May, 2010
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11.00 am - 4.00 pm

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Bridgend students visit Auschwitz as part of latest Holocaust education programme

PUPILS from schools around south Wales – including a number from the Vale – have been taken on a ‘day trip’ to a destination that is synonymous with humanity at its most inhuman – Auschwitz.

The visit was organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust, a charity based in the UK, as part of its ‘Lessons From Auschwitz’ project, which takes pupils out to Poland to visit the death camps that will forever be linked with the Nazis’ ‘Final Solution to the Jewish problem’.

The project’s long-term aim is to take two pupils from every secondary school in the UK out to Auschwitz, and for these pupils to be ‘ambassadors’ who can pass on their experiences to their peers, and ensure that the Holocaust is never forgotten.

So, for those pupils – all volunteers – the day promised to be harrowing, with the added burden of the heavy responsibility of telling their story back home.

Philip Irwin of The GEM joined the party, which included pupils from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, Stanwell, St Cyres, Porthcawl, Bryntirion and Ysgol Gyfun Llanhari.

It was no less harrowing for him.



Photographs by Yakir Zur



ABOVE: The final tribute at the end of a long day – laying lit candles on the railway track at Birkenau.



Family photographs – the last exhibit at Birkenau.

ABOVE: Local guide Katerina talks to the pupils in front of the infamous Auschwitz gate. (This photograph by GEM staff).



WHEN it comes to studying the events surrounding the Holocaust, I would like to think of myself as quite well informed. I have read books on the subject, and seen a number of documentaries.

Add to that the frequency with which it crops up in dramatic form, in films, novels, theatre and TV, and I felt that I knew enough. Certainly, I felt that I didn’t want to look any closer, or do any more research.

However, a visit to Auschwitz in Poland forces you to turn around and take another look.

The pupils were not thrown into the experience unprepared. They had all been to an orientation seminar a week before going. Also, they were all due at another post-event seminar to talk about their experiences.

That is a good idea, because there is something about the physical act of walking around the Auschwitz complex that robs you of the power of coherent speech.

I did receive a number of perceptive and honest contributions from pupils, but they all came after a few days’ reflection.

No one was saying much at the time – either adults or ‘children’.

The Holocaust Educational Trust takes the view that the sheer scale of what took place at Auschwitz is more than people can take in. The numbers are so vast that you cease to think of the victims as individuals.

The thrust of the day, therefore, is to ‘repersonalise’ the Holocaust, and the first step towards this goal is to start the day in Oswiecim. When the Germans invaded, Oswiecim was a town where the Jewish majority lived harmoniously with the Polish Catholics who made up most of the remainder of the town’s 14,000 population.

It had a large military barracks, which was ideal for the Nazis’ purposes, and that barracks became Auschwitz (the German version of Oswiecim).

Since the war ended, the town has reverted, not surprisingly, to the Polish version.

At Oswiecim, the pupils were shown the site of the former (large) synagogue, which was burned down by the invaders.

They then took a short walk and were welcomed into the (much smaller) present day synagogue by

Rabbi Barry Marcus, a veteran of such trips.

Rabbi Barry talked about life in the town before the war, and about after the war. Many Oswiecim Jews were probably among the first to die in Auschwitz. Those who were able to escape and survive the war, chose to seek new lives elsewhere.

Rabbi Barry revealed that one man did return – a man so traumatised that he spoke to no one, and lived the rest of his life as a mute witness to the past.

However, I believe the main reason for the visit to the synagogue were the photographs on the walls. Nothing remarkable – that was the point. The photographs were all pre-war, and were simple scenes of everyday life.

There were class photos from school, family groups or social occasions – exactly what you would expect from a small town community. It was understated, but there would be a powerful echo in Auschwitz Birkenau as night fell, seven hours later.

The military barracks that are now known as Auschwitz One are part of the town, in the same way that the local secondary school is part of a town like Barry or Llantwit Major. It covers about the same area too, but with more barrack buildings and little in the way of playing fields.

It only took a few minutes before we were being ushered past the gates that said ‘Arbeit Macht Frei’. It was almost six hours since we had checked in at Cardiff Airport and it was starting to snow.

The staff at Auschwitz are now used to taking parties of school pupils around, and we were all equipped with headphones so that we could hear every word spoken by Katerina, our guide.

It is at Auschwitz One that you find all the exhibits. One block has been left to show what the living conditions were like – although ‘living’ conditions is quite the wrong term.

Other blocks are given over to the collections that most people know about – a room where the ‘exhibit’ is hundreds of suitcases, all neatly labeled by families who believed they were being relocated to start a new life, or another room with shoes.

As you enter these blocks, a sign over the door says ‘Evidence of Crimes’ – a grim reminder that still, to this day, certain groups tie logic in knots to try and explain away what went on here.

As with so many things about Auschwitz, it is the scale that gets to you. The room with the shoes, for instance, is actually a narrow corridor, perhaps 25 yards long. You take a step in and you can see,

behind the glass to your left and to your right, thousands of shoes piled 12 feet high.

I took that first step and really did not want to go any further. Part of me was saying ‘I’ve seen enough’ while part of me insisted on seeing it all, so I walked the 25 yards looking to one side, and then walked back looking the other.

As we left the building, one teacher who was accompanying her pupils said to me: ‘I was alright in there until I saw a matching pair.’

The scale of Auschwitz is such that the small things tend to have a big impact. For me, it was in the ‘hair room’ where this time the exhibit is human hair, again piled about 12 feet high behind a glass window, and once again stretching maybe 20 yards.

The hair was, of course, cut from the living, who had their heads shaved before being assigned to labouring duties, and from the dead – once the gas chambers had done their job.

However, once again it was the small details that hit home. In a cabinet in a corner of the room were a number of documents – business contracts – and there was the price agreed for this hair with (presumably) a wig-maker back in the Fatherland.

It was 50 pfennigs a kilo. The pupils spent probably about two hours walking around Auschwitz One. I think that there was much more to see, but it was time to take the short bus ride to Birkenau. It was snowing quite heavily now, and our party would be spending the next four hours almost entirely out of doors.

The pupils were familiar with Birkenau (also known as Auschwitz Two). They recognised the watchtower, and they knew where the trains would pull up, with families leaving the trains to be assessed and assigned – sent either to work parties or to the gas chambers.

This time, we are not talking about a school on the outskirts of a town.

We are talking about a large industrial estate. Only a few of the huts that made up the living quarters are still standing, but the foundations are visible as they stretch away to the right and to the left. The pupils don’t need more than 10 minutes inside one to realise how dreadful the conditions must have been.

Then, with the snow still falling, we set off along the rail tracks, heading towards the gas chambers. It was a long walk and is not ‘tourist friendly’.

We stumbled and slipped across the uneven ground – but nobody complains.

Auschwitz was liberated by the Red Army and, as the Russians approached, the Nazis tried to destroy the gas chambers.

As a result, the two ruined buildings have been left as they were, with a board erected to explain where the different rooms in the building were, and detailing what happened where.

In the morning, in Auschwitz One, we had been shown a model of the gas chambers, so it was not difficult to visualise them in working order.

About 400 yards from the gas chambers, there is one building still standing, and it is this building that is an echo of the synagogue in the morning. During the liberation of Auschwitz, a suitcase was discovered, filled with hundreds of family pictures.

After the war, Jewish organisations tried to identify the families, and to find out what became of them.

Sadly, that was only possible in the case of a small number. As a result, these family groups live on in a room devoted to their memory.

Occasionally, the family group is alongside some biographical details: where they came from; what business they were in; when they were arrested by the Nazis – and whether any of the family survived.

There were precious few who did.

Finally, Rabbi Barry Marcus conducted a short service, and made a passionate speech about the need to remember the Holocaust.

Then, the pupils lit candles and placed them on the end of the railway lines. It was dark now, and still snowing, and the party then made the long walk back towards the infamous watchtower – and their waiting buses.

I must confess that when I first heard about the trip, I felt sorry for the pupils – even though they were volunteers.

It seemed a heavy responsibility, and that too much was being asked of them.

However, I can only point to the following quote from Rebecca and Siobhan from Bryntirion Comprehensive School: ‘It is clear to our family and friends how much the trip has changed our perspective on, not only the Holocaust but our outlook on the world itself.’

‘It was unbelievable that humans could inflict such pain upon one another. We have learned to appreciate our lives and cherish what we have.’

‘And most importantly to never hate, as hate was at the very root of this travesty.’

This rates package brings welcome relief for Welsh business and public services

THE additional rate relief package for small businesses announced in the Budget will be a boost for businesses in the Vale.

This will mean that around half of small businesses in Wales will pay no business rates for the year from October 1, 2010 and roughly 20 per cent more will see their business rates reduced significantly.

The details of these changes announced by the Chancellor will be important to Vale businesses and my office is always ready to advise and provide further information on these important announcements following the rate relief boosts announced at Christmas by our Local Government Minister, Carl Sargeant.

The latest move involves an increase in the rateable value threshold at which properties will qualify for 100 per cent relief to £6,000 and a taper band of relief from 100 per cent to 50 per cent up to a threshold of £12,000 from the October date for one year.

The UK and Welsh Assembly Governments have worked together to secure this support for businesses as part of the plan to support the upturn of the economy

as we move out of recession, but we know how fragile this is as we seek to support business and drive efficiency and innovation in our public services.

Major investment in the Welsh Assembly regional transport plans will also be a welcome boost for public services in Wales involving over £9million for the south east Wales region. This includes over £460,000 for the Vale of Glamorgan – an increase in last year's local transport grant supporting local bus and community transport services.

This will support the vital services provided by VEST (Voluntary Emergency Transport), (DPVC) Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, East Vale Community Transport and Greenlinks – a new project for the rural Vale – as well as supporting a number of important bus routes.

This enables disabled and elderly people to get to important hospital appointments but also to access shops and services.

It was great to see the investment in the new facilities for disabled people and their carers at Cowbridge Leisure Centre last week, joining Seth and Sol Jorgensen at the new changing places facility fully

equipped for adults and children, to enable disabled people to access the gym and personal trainers at the centre. This will help boost business at the leisure centre for so many people.

A recent report for the Welsh Assembly Government has shown how free prescriptions in Wales have increased equity and access for patients who were not previously entitled to free prescriptions with asthma, heart disease or an organ transplant, helping them to lead more independent lives and reducing the risk of unnecessary emergency admissions to hospital.

It is also important that we recognise the importance of our investment in services to support the most vulnerable and unprotected members of society including those who experience violence in the home.

A new strategy to protect women and children has been launched by the Welsh Assembly Government. 'The Right to be Safe' includes a number of initiatives and additional funding of £1 million to expand services offered by the Wales Domestic Abuse Helpline, as well as measures to tackle trafficking and to boost educational understanding and awareness, through

our personal and social educational framework.

Our access to European funds is also important for business and the public as we plan to use up to £34 million to improve energy efficiency in housing in Wales.

As well as supporting renewable energy generation measures, this will help cut carbon emissions and fuel bills, as well as providing a major boost to support green jobs in Wales.

ASSEMBLY NOTES



by Jane Hutt AM (Minister for Business and Budget)

Vale AM has follow-up meeting over Bosch

FOLLOWING correspondence in The GEM on action to support the BOSCH workforce, readers will be interested to know that I am meeting with the Works Council, UNITE officials and Rhodri Morgan AM this week.

This is to follow up our three-hour meeting with BOSCH Chiefs in Stuttgart a few weeks ago, for which I met all my costs personally as the Vale of Glamorgan Assembly Member.

I have been working closely with the BOSCH Works Council, who formed part of the delegation with Rhodri Morgan AM to meet the BOSCH Chiefs in Stuttgart at Easter.

During a long and constructive meeting, we made the case for the best support package for the workforce; and to explore options for the future use of the BOSCH site to help secure a legacy from the company who have benefited from considerable Welsh public investment, as well as a

dedicated and skilled workforce.

It is vital that we work together to secure this legacy to support this skilled workforce drawn from across south-east Wales, together with support for the local companies in the supply chain for BOSCH – and to seek future sustainable opportunities for this well-positioned site for the Welsh economy. Jane Hutt, AM, (Labour Assembly Member for the Vale of Glamorgan)

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Rotary Young Musician Zone 3 final takes place

THE magnificent Bradenstoke Hall in St Donats Castle echoed to the sound of seven very talented young instrumentalists on the evening of March 24.

The Zone 3 final of the Rotary Young Musician competition was held in this historic setting, the home of The United World College of the Atlantic, an international 6th form college overlooking the Bristol Channel.

Competitors were all winners of their local competitions from the Rotary clubs of Maesteg, Bridgend, Porthcawl, Neath, Swansea Valley, Llantwit Major and Port Talbot.

Hannah Thomas, a cellist from Porthcawl Comprehensive School, played a selection of music from J S Bach, Gabriel Fauré and Schumann.

She was followed by violinist Lucy Noden, a student at Brynrefg Comprehensive School, Bridgend, who played pieces from Grieg and Monti.

Sara Friel, who is a student at Cowbridge



Zone 3 final competitors.

Comprehensive School, played two pieces on the flute by Poulenc and Garibaldi.

The only brass instrumentalist, Frances Folland, a student at Dyffryn School Port Talbot, played the euphonium with pieces by Alan Menken and Charles Gounod.

Kate Colwell, who played the viola, was highly commended by the judges for her performance of *Concerto in G Major* by Telemann and *Christmas Dance* by Vaughan Williams. Kate attends Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera.

The runner-up in the competition was harpist Stephanie Chick who attends Howells School in Cardiff. Stephanie

played three pieces, Glinka's *Nocturne*, *Passacaille* by Handel and *Au Matin - Étude de Concert* by Tournier.

The competition winner, Luke Millard, a 16-year-old cellist who attends Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera, played *Kol Nidrei* by Max Bruch and the first movement of Edouard Lalo's concerto with consummate skill and musicianship.

The adjudication panel was made up of Sally Tarlton, Sally Matheson and Helena Braithwaite, a well-known leading figure in the youth music scene in south Wales, stretching over many years.

The Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Sandra

Townsend, assistant district governor of Rotary District 1150, who announced that the winner Luke Millard would go on to compete against other zone winners at the grand final of the competition to be held at the Taliesin Theatre Swansea University, on Saturday May 8.

In closing the evening's event, Gareth Rees, who is president of the host Rotary Club of Llantwit Major, said that he was extremely impressed with the high standard achieved by the competitors, who ranged in age between 13 and 17 years of age, and wished Luke well in the final round of the competition.

TC



Zone 3 finalist winner Luke Millard with Gareth Rees.



Zone 3 final runner-up Stephanie Chick.

Ministers see the work they do down on the farm!

AFTER being invited by Jane Hutt AM to visit the Amelia Trust Farm, the Minister for education, Leighton Andrews AM, was given a conducted tour through the woodland and farm yard, meeting staff and young people who benefit from opportunities at this pioneering 'Care Farm' in the Vale.

On his way, he saw the way animal care and land management skills are taught to young people, opening up new opportunities and horizons in their lives.

The Vale AM commented: "The Amelia Trust Farm does such brilliant work with young people from across south Wales and I was keen for the Minister to see what they are achieving with the commitment and skills of the staff team, led by director Lorraine Brown.

"We discussed the contribution the farm can make to the 14-19 learning pathways range of learning opportunities, including animal care and land management skills."



The Assembly VIPs are pictured down on the farm.

Vale receives funding for discharge programme

THE VALE is to receive a share of £2 million funding to help older people leave hospital more quickly.

The Vale has been awarded £90,136 for the next financial year to carry out minor but vital adaptations to older people's homes, to allow them to be discharged from hospital more quickly, the

Assembly deputy Minister for Housing and Regeneration, Jocelyn Davies, recently announced.

The Rapid Response Adaptations Programme (RRAP) will allow equipment such as ramps, handrails, safety alarms and door entry systems to be fitted. The scheme is administered and monitored by Care and Repair Cymru and delivered

by Care and Repair agencies.

Ms Davies said: "The Rapid Response Adaptations Programme provides a valuable service that allows older people across Wales to get back to familiar surroundings more quickly and to continue living safely and independently in their own homes for as long as possible."

PUPILS' EXCELLENCE RECOGNISED AT ST CYRES PRESENTATION

PUPILS, parents, staff and governors enjoyed a memorable evening at the St Cyres annual awards evening last week.

During this important event, pupils were rewarded for the commitment, excellence and endeavour they have demonstrated in a number of different areas, from contributing to the school and local community to excellence in different subject areas.

Each department gave an award for excellence and among the winners were Sam Berg (mathematics), Matthew Roan (PE) and Rosie Lyne (history). These pupils received their awards from Deputy Headteacher Ms Hilary Thomas.

Local businesses also supported the school by sponsoring awards and these included the JM Textiles awards won by Naomi Lewis and Luke Penberthy of year-7 and the Dragonfly Training Award won by Lucas Podesta.

The Friends of St Cyres recognised the contribution made to the school by Robert Edwards as a student who really is an inspiration to others. The David Davies Award for Endeavour was awarded to Pauline Alvarez in year-10 and the Governors' Award for 'Most Improved Student' went to Mikael Khalid.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation by Ron McLean, the project manager for the new school building. Ron gave an entertaining account of his career to date and gave some valuable advice to pupils on making key decisions in their future careers.

Speaking during the evening, headteacher Mr Brian Lightman, said: "Pupils have once again excelled themselves and provided role models for others to aspire to. It is a privilege to work with such highly motivated pupils and to share the delight of parents with whom we work throughout the year to ensure pupils fulfil their potential."

RIGHT:
New school project leader Ron McLean.

BELOW:
Matthew Roan receives an award for excellence in PE.



ABOVE: Sam Berg receives an award for excellence in mathematics.



ABOVE: Ron McLean presents Hanah Foat with one of the sports awards.



RIGHT:
Rosie Lyne receives an award for excellence in history.



ABOVE: Headteacher Mr Brian Lightman presents the David Davies award for endeavour to Pauline Alvarez.

Climate questions

RESIDENTS of the Vale will be able to put climate questions to local candidates in the general election, on Wednesday, April 14 at 7pm in the Tabernacle, King's Square, Holton Road, Barry.

It is being organised by Christian Aid on behalf of the Ask the Climate Question coalition.

Amnesty events

WAITROSE Barry is holding a charity fundraising weekend for Amnesty International on Saturday, April 17 with the branch manager working on the tills.

On Sunday, April 18, there is a charity car boot sale (10am) with charity hand car washing by Waitrose partners and raffle for trips to see the Cardiff Devils and a 20/20 cricket game.

Caroline Sullivan, the branch manager, will be cycling across Britain in May to raise further funds for the charity.

Floral demo

BARRY Floral Society will hold a demonstration on April 13 at St Nicholas Hall, Barry, by Mrs Pat Llewellyn of Ammanford at 2.15pm. New members are welcome.

Plans to boost Vale transport announced

TRANSPORT schemes in the Vale could benefit from "significant investment" over the next five years.

Rail, bus and road schemes are included in the Welsh Assembly Government's National Transport Plan, and Coun Jeffrey James, cabinet member for planning and transportation, said: "All the schemes will improve

access to the key settlement of Barry, and will assist passengers when travelling to and from Cardiff Airport."

The schemes include:
● The introduction of additional half-hourly services on the Vale of Glamorgan railway line, which will improve access to Cardiff Airport.
These are to start following Network Rail's Cardiff area resignalling scheme in 2014;

● An additional platform at Barry Station is planned for commencement in 2014;

● The introduction of a high-quality express bus service between Cardiff and Cardiff Airport;

● The Welsh Assembly taking forward with the Vale Council road safety improvements on the A4226 Five-Mile Lane to Barry. Noting that the Vale will benefit from significant investment during the lifetime of the plan,

Coun James, who is also chairman of the South East Wales Transport Alliance, added:

"I am particularly pleased with the announcement of the additional train services on the Vale of Glamorgan railway line.

"This scheme has been promoted for a number of years by both Sewta and the Vale Council and will benefit Rhosce and Llantwit Major residents, as well as travellers using Cardiff Airport."

PACT meetings

BUTTRILLS PACT, Philip John Community Room, Barry Library, Thursday, April 8, at 6.30pm.
WENVOE coffee and chat meeting, Beechtree Inn, April 8, at 11.30am.
PENDROYLAN Community Council meeting, Pendroylan School, April 8, at 7.45pm.
GIBBONSDOWN PACT, Communities First Office, Aberaeron Close, April 12, at 7pm.
DINAS POWYS PACT, Bethesda Hall, April 12, at 7pm.
ST AUGUSTINES PACT, Windsor Public House, April 13, at 7pm.
CORNERSWELL PACT, Cogan Leisure Centre, April 13, at 7pm.
PLYMOUTH PACT, Paget Rooms, April 14, at 7pm.
LLANDOUGH PACT, Llandough Memorial Hall, April 19, at 7pm.
LLANDOW PACT, Ewenny Village Hall, April 21, at 7pm.

Children's TV history

A NEW exhibition at Barry's Art Central charts changes in children's television.

Prints displaying characters from Nickelodeon's modern-day underwater adventurer SpongeBob SquarePants are on

show, alongside classic characters from days gone by, including Bagpuss, Ivor the Engine and Mr Benn.

They are joined by faces from the Mister Men series, and Noddy.

There will also be animation art workshops on Saturdays from April 10-May 2.

The Barry Men's Forum gets a picture of London

AT our last meeting, Mr Adrian Warner, the Ogmore landscape photographer, took members of the Forum 'around' London using the magic of his beautiful photography.

His display was wonderfully varied and took in such delights as the astonishing new temple at Neasden and Stephenson's Rocket in the Science Museum at Kensington.

His camera caught the vivid colours on display in Kensington Gardens and the soaring height of Westminster Cathedral's tower, which, on completion, had the highest lift in London.

Forum members saw pictures of the Sherlock Holmes pub off

Trafalgar Square, above which is the well-known museum containing many 'authentic' relics of the great detective himself.

Adrian had an interesting experience when photographing the environs of the Sidney Street siege, at which Winston Churchill was present as Home Secretary.

He was confused as to where the actual events had taken place and entered a local pub to make enquiries. Inside, he found a large picture gallery depicting the pre-First World War event.

Some of the drinkers in the pub were able to point out family relatives on the photographs who had been spectators at the time.

Our speaker rounded off his exhibition by showing scenes of the sun setting in a blaze of glory

over the Bristol Channel, taken from his home. Without doubt, London has nothing to remotely compare with that!

Meetings of the Men's Forum are held every Thursday at 10.30am. New members are welcome. Telephone 029 2059 4881 for further information.

MAC TANNER

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Vale
RESORT

PENARTH and DISTRICT RAMBLERS NEWS

Walkers take a Tumble past the Tramroad, and on to the Punch Bowl!

CLIVE recently stood in at short notice for a cancelled walk and 10 walkers joined him for a trip up to the Bloreng, on what turned out to be a great day for walking.

Beginning on the south side at Keepers Pond (Pen-ffordd-goch) situated at 475-metres above sea level where there was a cool breeze blowing, they crossed the road and walked through The Tumble, allegedly named after Dic Shon, who tumbled down the steep slope, broke his leg and reached Garn Ddyrys where a forge once stood.

In 1795, a Bloreng quarry Tramroad was built, but this later gave way to Hill's Tramroad, named after Thomas Hill, the manager of Blaenavon Ironworks.

This was built to carry pig iron from Blaenavon to Garn Ddyrys, where it was worked into wrought iron and was famous for the 1.5-mile tunnel connecting Pwll Du to Blaenavon.

In its heyday, 15 to 20 trams, each containing two tons of limestone, went through the tunnel; and later in the 1850s when the tramroad could not cope with the increased production, a



ABOVE: The walkers dig in for a long climb.

double incline railway was constructed.

This crossed the mountain from near New Pit at Blaenavon to Pwll Du and enabled four trams to be pulled up and down the one mile incline.

At Garn Ddyrys, they passed the site of the old Queen Victoria Inn, where in 1946 during a very lively party, there was a loud creak and the floor gave way; 30-customers ended up in the cellar and no doubt experienced the biggest hang-over of their lives!

Following the tramroad there was still some evidence of its industrial past in the shape of some sleepers where the tramroad rails were fixed.

Further along, they saw the cut and shut tunnel which most likely served to protect the tunnel from ground slip-

page. Nearby there once stood a winch house for the Llanfoist incline that carried the wagons down to the wharf, before their journey along the Monmouth/Brecon canal to reach Newport.

The group carried on to the Punchbowl, originally carved out of the hillside by glaciers during the last ice age but the present lake is man-made and has a small islet in the centre.

This was a popular place for illegal bare knuckle fighting and in 1889 (allegedly) a fight between David Rees from Nantyglo and William Williams of Brynmawr lasted 42 rounds, taking 102 minutes to complete and all for a purse of £10 - sheer madness!

On the surrounding wooded slopes there are many types of trees,

some more than 200-years old.

After a pause, it was time to climb to the top of Bloreng, standing at 559-metres high above the River Usk, where the group were glad to stop in the sunshine and enjoy their lunch while taking in views towards Skirrid, Sugar Loaf, Pen Cerrig-cach and the Black Mountain ridges beyond.

Refreshed, the group walked along the edge of the Bloreng and upon their return to the start still had fairly clean boots - very much appreciated and rather unheard of during recent weather conditions.

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

The United States comes a step closer to travellers

INTERNATIONAL travellers in the Vale and rest of south Wales, can now fly to the United States from Cardiff Airport via Ireland, rather than travelling to Bristol or London for connecting flights.

Aer Lingus is now operating services from Cardiff to Dublin with connections to the USA, including New York (John F Kennedy Airport), Boston, Chicago and Orlando.

The service is being run under the Aer Lingus Regional brand.

Connecting with transatlantic flights in

Dublin allows onward passengers to clear immigration quickly before reaching the USA.

The Dublin flights from Cardiff will see an increase in services, operating three times daily from Monday to Friday, and on Sundays, with two flights taking place on Saturdays.

Aer Lingus is also operating a daily service to Cork. In total, the two new services will connect Ireland and Wales 52 times each week offering frequent opportunities to reach Ireland for business or tourism.

The flights have replaced the existing Aer Arann service following the recent announcement that the airline will be operating as a franchise

partner of Aer Lingus.

Spencer Birns, Cardiff Airport's head of air service development, commented:

"The new services offer many advantages to south Wales travellers, including better business timings on Cardiff to Dublin flights, and the advantage of being able to clear immigration in Dublin before travelling on connecting flights to the USA."

"Wales has many business links with the US, especially with cities such as New York, Chicago and Boston, and these connections will be a major benefit for travellers who visit the States on a regular basis."

The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone 01656 725219).

CAN YOU GIVE HOLBY A HOME?

THIS WEEK: Holby is a five-year-old Staffordshire Bull Terrier.

A centre spokeswoman reports: "He is a fab boy, with a lovely nature. He is friendly with people, but he doesn't get on with other dogs."

"He needs a home with someone who has owned Staffs before. He needs to be the only



HOLBY.

dog in the home. He will need an active owner who can provide him with plenty of exercise."

Karma Beauty is backing Help for Heroes

KARMA BEAUTY, now enjoying its second year of trading in Cowbridge, is delighted to be holding a Mad Hatter's tea party in aid of Help For Heroes on Saturday, April 17, from 1pm-4pm.

Help For Heroes is Karma Beauty's official charity for 2010 and proceeds from the day will be donated to this worthwhile charity in aid of injured service personnel.

Karma Beauty offers luxury beauty and holistic treatments at affordable prices, making beauty available for all. Mel and the team will be hosting the Mad Hatter's tea party with cakes, cookies and treats served

with tea, coffee and soft drinks.

Wear your best tea party hat and receive a special prize awarded for the maddest hat at the party!

Balloon modelling, luxury raffle and introductory offers on all manicures and Indian head massages will be available, as well as homemade cakes that you can buy on the day to take home.

Serving tea on the day will be Simon, Mel's husband, who is running this year's Virgin London Marathon on April 24, also in aid of Help For Heroes.

As part of the support for Help For Heroes, Karma Beauty is donating four hours of free treatment for the wives of service personnel at RAF St Athan, as well as 10 per cent discount for all serving personnel.

Acting star Jay to debut on Casualty



ABOVE: On the Casualty set with fellow star Tristan Gemmill, who plays Dr Adam Truman.

BARRY acting star Jay Ruckley makes his bow on one of Britain's most popular TV programmes this weekend.

Jaye, aged 11, will play the part of a youngster called Sam in the hospital drama Casualty.

The show is due to be screened on BBC1 on Saturday, April 10, at 9pm.

Jaye already has a long running hit to his name, *Grandpa in my Pocket*, in which he stars with James Bolam.

Jaye told The GEM: "I play the part of nine-year-old Sam, whose par-

ents are breaking up, and who feels neglected. In trying to help his mother, he spills hot water over his brother's arm."

"Last summer, I went for an audition with Casualty and heard nothing. Luckily, they remembered me when they were casting the role of Sam, which was bigger than the part I originally went for."

The All Saints youngster, who attends The Workshop, an acting school in Cardiff run by Peter Wooldridge, filmed Casualty over December and January.

He will appear in the next four episodes.

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LETTERS
EXTRA

THE glib letter from Alun Cairns published in The GEM on April 1 cannot be reconciled with the leaflet sent by the Vale of Glamorgan

Conservatives to Dr David Ellis in Llantwit Major.

In the leaflet, Mr Cairns claims to have gone to Stuttgart as the result of anger among local Conservatives. In the leaflet, he is the local Conservative parliamentarian candidate.

In The GEM he suggests he went as the shadow Industry Minister in the Assembly with responsibility "in any part of Wales", but, nevertheless, he claims the visit was financed by himself and colleagues.

Now that it has been used by the Vale Conservatives as an electioneering ploy, the cost of the visit should be disclosed publicly. All Mr Cairns will declare on this subject is that he understands a similar trip by Labour

and Plaid may have cost the public purse more than £5,000.

Dr Ellis is entitled to a full answer to his question: how much did Mr Cairns' visit to Stuttgart cost, and who exactly paid for it at the time?

Roger Everest, Pontyclun

Footnote: In fairness, Mr Cairns clearly stated in his letter that "nothing was drawn from the public purse".

Hunt for Gran

IWONDER if any of your readers can help me in my search for my grandmother?

Her name was Ethel Hilda Young and her last known address was 52 Mount Earl, Bridgend, in May/June 1945.

Any information would be appreciated. **Roger Meadows, 10 Cromwell Road, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0JG. Email: rgrmearows@yahoo.co.uk**

STUTTGART VISIT: The cost of trip queried

LETTERS
EXTRA

Give us back our old analogue TV!

SINCE the switch-off of the TV analogue signal for ITV and BBC, and yet another retuning of my digital set top box, I have been having trouble with the ITV Wales signal.

It goes up and down like a proverbial yo yo, causing the pic-

ture to break up and freeze intermittently.

Is the BBC blocking the signal to increase their viewing figures? All other channels seem to be fine. I have had to resort to tuning in to the ITV West analogue signal, which will be available until 2012.

Apparently, London will be the last location to go digital; is this because if they can't watch

Eastenders there will be riots on the streets? We poor souls in Wales are yet again used as guinea pigs until they can get the signal level right.

I will campaign against radio going digital, because this is maybe the only thing we can access.

The benefit is that we will save the cost of the TV licensing fee. **James Wild, Llantwit Major**



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SUMMER HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS NOW BOOKING



Paul Gentile's expert Troll kits advice

DON'T miss Sunday April 18, when customers will be viewing the new limited edition Troll kits at Paul Gentile, The Capitol Centre, Cardiff.

The eye-catching sweet floral collection kits are available in two distinctive colourways, decorative pinks and vivid, vibrant blues.

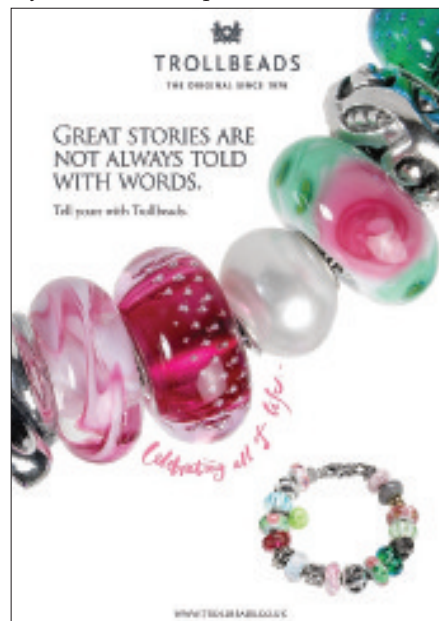
The beads are individually decorated and blend beautifully together to create an irresistible combination.

There are also the new dazzling delicate hanging Tassel Beads - beautiful beads inspired by the delightful colours and patterns of a garden blooming in spring!

A spokesman said: "Join us for light refreshments, a free raffle and expert advice on your trolls."

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SPRING is here

EASTER weekend was a little disappointing. Most of us hoped the weather would improve enough to encourage us out of hibernation. The temperature is now rising - so the time is right to transform our garden areas.

If your mower has been stored away through the winter, perhaps it needs the blades sharpened or maintaining? Is your fence in need of attention after winter storms? Check out what needs repairing or renewing around your garden.

Our spring feature includes companies with the products and services to help bring the life back into your surroundings.

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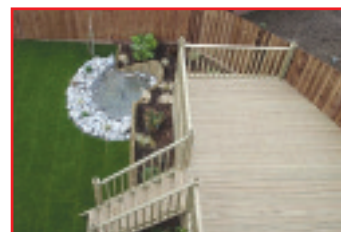
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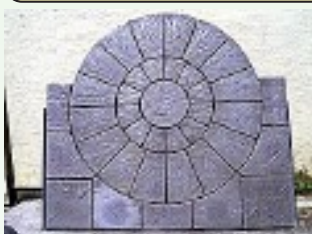
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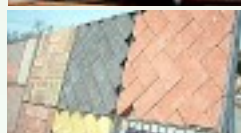
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Drive past the village post office, taking the next right, signposted Llanharan.

We are about one and three-quarter miles along this road on the right-hand side.

Richard Couzens welcomes customers old and new

RICHARD Couzens Machinery Ltd is going from strength-to-strength, supplying and maintaining both agricultural machinery to the farming industry and horticultural equipment to the general public.

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The company team is local to the Vale and has a wealth of experience and knowledge. Staff are all friendly, reliable and helpful.

Richard would like to thank all existing customers for their past loyalty and looks forward to their continued custom.

He also welcomes new customers – so come and look around!

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Homes & Gardens

Revealing the 10 top tips so you can relax in the perfect conservatory

RELAX in a conservatory on a summer's day, and it soon becomes apparent how it can transform the way in which you use your home.

Hugely versatile and appealing, a conservatory maximises living space, whether it's used as a peaceful year-round sanctuary for some much-needed 'me' time, as an informal dining space, or even as a playroom.

Gareth Short, conservatories and glazing business manager at the Leekes department store, explained: "Adding a conservatory to your home can bring a whole new dimension to how you live.

"You can now choose from an even more extensive range of styles and finishes than ever before, and our experts will tailor whatever design you want to suit

your requirements."

With a little expert advice on how to go about making an investment that can add as much as five per cent to the value of your property, you'll soon be well on the way to creating the additional living space you've always wanted, just by sticking to a few 'rules'.

STEP 1 - CHOICE

There's so much choice when it comes to choosing the perfect conservatory that you'd be forgiven for not knowing where to start.

While the classic white uPVC conservatory remains massively popular due to its low cost, advances in building technology in recent years has also increased the choices available.

Hardwood conservatories are a great alternative to uPVC, with tiled roof conservatories becoming more sought after as they blend seamlessly with your home.

Demand for tradition-

al-style orangeries, characterised by their vaulted roofs, is also growing, adding an air of sophistication to any living space.

STEP 2 - DESIGN AND PLANNING

Most specialist conservatory companies offer a comprehensive service which includes free design and planning.

An experienced conservatory designer will have extensive knowledge of the design and planning process from the initial technical service through to the creation of a computer-aided design which will enable you to visualise the proposed layout and overall look of your new conservatory before you make a commitment.

STEP 3 - PLANNING PERMISSION

Determining whether or not you need planning permission is essential and this is an area that a well-established, reputable company will be

happy to take care of.

STEP 4 - INSTALLATION

The free design and planning service that most reputable retailers offer usually extends to installation too. Ensure your new conservatory is installed by approved qualified craftsmen who are able to take care of everything from the building of the base through to the fitting of the glass.

Craftsmen who are qualified to a high standard will carry out the job safely and with the minimum of disruption.

Look out for industry accredited companies who are members of BBA and FENSA. Make sure you opt for a design that is timeless enough

to look great for many years to come.

STEP 6 - AFFORDABILITY

Investing in a new conservatory can be one of the most costly purchases you will ever make as a homeowner, so having the option to spread the cost is always appealing. Look out for flexible payment options, including low affordable monthly payments, home improvement loans and interest free credit options which can be arranged to suit you.

STEP 7 - INNOVATION

Innovations are always taking place in the conservatory and glazing industry.

Developments in technology now mean that much of the glass used in conservatories is self-cleaning, with glass that can help to reduce heat loss by up to 90 per cent also used in many constructions.

STEP 8 - FINISHING TOUCHES

As with most things in life, it's the finishing touches that make all the difference and a full interior design service is the perfect way to complete the look of your

conservatory.

An interior designer can advise on the best way to furnish your new living space - will you opt for cane furniture or fabric, hard wearing floor tiles or wooden flooring, spot lights or an elaborate chandelier?

Blinds are also all important in a conservatory, especially when summer arrives.

STEP 9 - 10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Ask a sales consultant about a guarantee - most specialist conservatory companies are so confident in their products that they'll want you to

have peace of mind for many years to come, so a guarantee will come as standard.

STEP 10 - AFTER SALES SERVICE

Once the installation is complete, your level of customer service should continue to be as supportive as at the initial stages of design and planning.

A dedicated after sales support team should be on hand to offer assistance in dealing with any queries you may have once your conservatory has been installed.

Slade Farm gardens put on charity show



Peter and Rosamund Davies with Alun Cairns AM.

HUNDREDS of people flocked to see the gardens at Slade Farm in Southerndown on Easter Sunday, under the National Open Garden scheme.

Supported by regional

AM, Alun Cairns, Peter and Rosamund Davies opened their garden to the public under the scheme and raised hundreds of pounds for charity in the process.

Slade Farm is believed to be the first in Glamorgan to open this year, and the woodland garden boasted masses

of early spring flowers, mature specimen trees, living willow arbours, rose and clematis pergola, terraced lawns, orchard and herbaceous borders.

Mr Cairns said: "In spite of the recent wet weather, the gardens were in superb condition."

"Peter and Rosamund had also organised an Easter egg hunt for the

children, which went down exceptionally well. "They really deserve to be congratulated on their hard work."

"We also need to recognise the work of the Brownies, who helped with the teas and cakes."

"It was a delightful event, showing a fantastic garden and raising money for charity in the process."

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Homes & Gardens

GREEN WASTE COLLECTIONS RESUME AROUND THE VALE

WITH the arrival of warmer weather, residents in the Vale are to receive their regular kerbside fortnightly garden waste collections.

Garden waste bags are collected on the same week as cardboard and plastic recycling, and content should include grass, shrub cuttings, leaves, plants, flowers and most weeds.

Figures from last year (April 2008 – March 2009) show that more than 4,100 tonnes of garden waste were collected, highlighting the exceptional effort put in by Vale residents.

Early figures from April 2009 to the end of March 2010 indicate that residents have exceeded last year's tonnage.

Coun Geoff Cox, cabinet member for visible and building services, was keen to praise how well residents have done.

He said: "Our Vale garden waste is sent to Penllyn Farm in Cowbridge where it is composted, turned into a soil enhancer and reused back on their farm land."



"I would like to say to our residents and all those involved, well done and keep up the good work, for this year too."

Garden waste must be placed out by 7am in either green reusable fabric bags, costing £1, or

biodegradable bags (three for £1).

Each bag is sold at both the council's Civic and Dock offices in Barry, the Alps office in Wenvoe, as well as from Llantwit Major, Cowbridge and Penarth libraries.

Creative Window & Build Solutions has expanded its product portfolio

CREATIVE Window & Build Solutions are certainly living up to their "more than just a window company" claim, with a range of Modena

Orangeries being the latest addition to their extensive range of products and services.

Local husband and wife team Dean and Leanne Edmonds are delighted by the recent interest in their contem-

porary range of new-generation orangeries.

Dean explained: "Here at Creative, we are proud to be one of the few installation companies that promote bespoke products and services. Our range of orangeries are designed and built by Creative

• Front row: from Cowbridge Compost – Damien Burnell, senior tractor driver, Coun Geoff Cox, John Homfray, estate partner, Mike Hallet, farm manager and Andrew Shackell, cattle manager.

we place on landfill. We are delighted that more and more residents get involved every year but we would still urge people to consider whether they could do more."

For more information on recycling, telephone 01446 700111, email visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or visit the council's website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle.

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Orangeries represent the ideal combination of the benefits and looks of conservatories and more conventional extensions. They are wonderfully light and airy spaces due to the glazed roofs as well as being cosy and inviting throughout the year. For this reason orangeries provide unique multi-purpose living space. Recently there has been a significant growth in popularity – customers who might have opted for a conservatory are now increasingly more likely to choose an orangery. Our range of orangeries are designed to complement your existing home more sympathetically. An orangery is undoubtedly the new generation conservatory. More than just a conservatory and less expensive than a traditional extension, the Creative Modena range fuses the best of both. Once built, you will wonder how you ever lived without this new, inspirational living space. A Contemporary glass lantern roof, underfloor heating, recessed lighting and bi-fold doors are just a few of the products available within our design package.

So, if you are thinking of a conservatory or extension, but want something different

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to arrange your free survey, or to view one of our Modena showhomes



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AT HIGH STREET TRADERS' EASTER PARADE EVERY CHILD WAS A WINNER



ON Saturday, dozens of Vale children attended the High Street Traders' Easter bonnet parade and Mad Hatter's tea party.

The traders' chairman Anthony Hopkins said: 'I'd like to thank the judges Sarah, Mathew and Sharon, Mathew of Monkey Mania for the Play Bus, Dr Bob for the balloons, Karen and Helen for promoting the event, Alexis, Ryan, Tamsin and Lisa for keeping control, and Sharon for organising everything!'

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event. Pictures can be purchased by contacting: e-mail glyn.evans01@tiscali.co.uk telephone 01446 773225.

*Now open in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.



CLASH OF THE TITANS? - IT'S MORE TRASH OF THE TITANS!

LOUIS LETERRIER has done an excellent job of building up his directorial profile in recent years.

After coming under the tutelage of Luc Besson, Leterrier made his bow with *Unleashed*, swiftly followed by the daffily enjoyable *Transporter 2*.

Having shown he knew his way around the action genre, Leterrier was handed *The Incredible Hulk*, and while his effort wasn't an all-encompassing hit, he showed enough ability to be tasked with bringing *Clash of the Titans* back to the big screen.

The remake of the 1981 original, noted for Ray Harryhausen's stop-motion effects work, sees Perseus (Sam Worthington), a half-man, half-god, lose his family when Hades (Ralph Fiennes) kills them during a battle between men and gods.

When the city of Argos is put under threat by Hades, sent by Zeus (Liam Neeson) to show man the power of the gods, Perseus decides to stop him, and with a small group (including Mads Mikkelsen, Gemma Arterton and Nicholas Hoult) sets out to stop Hades before he can unleash the Kraken...

This review starts with a warning; there are two versions of *Clash...* showing at your local cinema, a 2-D version and a 3-D version. Under no circumstances should you watch the latter, given the complete lack of anything remotely three-dimensional taking place. It seems to be merely a marketing gambit by the studio, as opposed to a genuine attempt to make a film with the benefits of new technology, and should be avoided, lest

you want to watch a slightly fuzzy film with the occasionally weak moment of '3-D'.

Rant over, and now onto the real meat of the review - and sadly it's not good news. For much like the 3-D, *Clash of the Titans* is a film similarly lacking in any real positives, and feels more like a cash-in of the original's goodwill than an attempt to make a film that bears any cinematic relevance today. Put bluntly, this *Clash* is absolute trash, and not overly enjoyable trash at that.

It is churlish to compare and contrast with the original film, which, Harryhausen's stop-motion aside, is an average piece of work with the odd moment of style, but it seems *Clash...*

2010 has taken the overblown nature of the story and assembled a film that is pointless, episodic and far too reliant on action sequences that are thrown in in lieu of creating a memorable storyline.

Coming in at a running time of 106 minutes, the film makes an honourable attempt to maintain the pace and excitement by pretty much leaping from one action sequence to the next.

All well and good if it intended to be a throw-away action film, but given the nature of the story trying to be told, it merely smacks of the scriptwriters failing to offer any substance to the story.

Given the situation Perseus finds himself in, learning he is half-man, half-god, do we get to see any real emoting about what he has to do? Of course we don't, instead he just mopes around stony-faced, telling everyone that he is all man and will do what he has to do without the assistance of the gods (though ironically

having to use the help of the gods to overcome villainy!)

It seems any concession to make the story more developed and nuanced has been thrown out by the screenwriters, who number three and seem to lack any idea of writing anything other than action sequence after action sequence.

It's little surprise that with a script like that, the performances fail to enliven proceedings. Sam Worthington, who after *Terminator: Salvation* and *Avatar* is quickly turning into the go-to guy for characters thrown into the deep end, fails to elicit anything resembling the intensity of the aforementioned performances.

Instead, his Perseus is lacking in charisma, and is little more than a footnote as a character - as we learn little about him throughout the course of the film.

While the likes of Mads Mikkelsen and Liam Cunningham do their best to make their swarthy soldiers a little more memorable than most of the other characters, Gemma Arterton finds herself wasted as Io, a character seemingly only created to pass on handy hints and tips as the group make their way from scene to scene.

The actress is more than capable of better, but is given little time to do anything, something that similarly applies to the casting of Liam Neeson and Ralph Fiennes.

While the former looks like the cousin of Ron Burgundy with his outlandish facial hair, it seems he can coast by on gravitas alone, offering little with his turn, while Fiennes takes time out of chewing the scenery on the *Harry Potter* franchise to have a nibble on the *Clash...*

set in a largely forgettable role, low on villainy but high on melodrama.

That they can cast Danny Huston as Poseidon, only to restrict him to one line, shows that the filmmakers were more concerned with appearances than that they were hiring the right talent; no doubt the latter three actors will be chortling happily to themselves, having no doubt banked a tidy pay packet for (in Huston's case especially) nothing.

Louis Leterrier's love of the original was a big factor in him signing up for this remake, but he shows little flair or skill that marks him out as director of any real talent.

Certainly he shows he can handle the epic scale of the film, but the reference points here are the likes of *Lord of the Rings* and *Pirates of the Caribbean*, the film lacking a visual identity of its own.

He utilises the CGI effects well, with some of the beasts they encounter being well rendered, but there is no real build to the various sequences. Medusa, the Kraken et al, while looking good, don't quite carry the menace you would hope for, and the final sequence in particular feels rushed and far too simplistic.

While there are some moments that are clever-

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

ly executed, the overall feel of *Clash of the Titans* is of a gigantic letdown. The performances are weak, the story rushed, and the film looks like a retreat of other fantasy films without establishing its own personality. It all adds up to a poor experience, a film that fails to excite and, actually, bores a little - and the less said about the 3-D experience the better!

VERDICT - A dull and weak remake of an average film, *Clash of the Titans* does no-one involved any good, and makes for a less than worthwhile viewing experience. The performances are lifeless and tread water while the story is rushed and lacking in depth.

A bore in both 2-D and 3-D, *Clash of the Titans* is a film best left alone. *Poor.*

WHAT'S ON

Tory surgery

THE Llantwit Major Conservatives will hold a surgery in the Heritage Room at the Town Hall at 11am-12noon on Saturday, April 10.

Fibromyalgia support

THE Vale of Glamorgan Fibromyalgia Support Group monthly meeting will be on Tuesday April 13.

Contact the group leader Barbara Clissett on 0845 345 5813 for further details. Calls are charged at standard rate.

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Cowbridge - 10.00am

The Duke of Wellington
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Lorraine 01446 407002

Penarth - 6.30pm

Elfed Avenue Methodist Church
Elfed Road
Niki 01446 740394

Rhoose - 6.30pm

Celtic Way Community Centre
Celtic Way
Helen 01446 750738

TUESDAY

Barry - 5.45pm
Market Street Social Club
Upstairs Function Room
Joanne 01446 404897

Barry - 4.30pm

St. Davids Methodist Church Hall,
Winston Road
Annmarie 01446 736534

0844 897 8000
www.slimmingworld.com

Llantwit Major -

4.45 & 6.45pm
Old School, Wine Street
Helen 01446 750738

Sully - 6.30pm

The Old School, South Road
Niki 01446 740394

WEDNESDAY

Barry - 4.45 & 6.45pm

St. Francis
Millennium Centre
Park Road,
Porth-y-Castell
Annmarie 01446 736534

Barry - 6.00pm

Cadoxton Methodist Church
Church Road
Joanne 01446 404897

Cowbridge - 6.00pm

The Duke of Wellington, High Street
Lina 01656 890708

Penarth 5.00 & 7.00pm

All Saints Church Hall, Victoria
Square Linda 01446 761150

THURSDAY

Barry - 6.00pm

Highlight Park Comm. Centre, Barry
Annmarie 01446 736534

Dinas Powys - 6.30pm

The Cabin, by swimming pool
Hebron Hall
Lorraine 01446 407002

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Out and About with The GEM

May Ball at The Bear

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School PTA has announced that the May Ball will take place on May 7 at 7.30pm.

The popular annual black tie event will be held in The Bear Hotel. Tickets are £40 and include a sumptuous three-course dinner with dancing late into the night to the strains of "The Love Handles".

Join the bidding in our 'Money Can't Buy Auction' and take part in the party games - it all combines to make it a thoroughly unforgettable evening.

Tables are in twelves so bring your friends along, or alternatively, meet new friends by joining a 'pot luck' table.

To avoid disappointment book your tickets early by calling Caroline on 01446 792320.

CL

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 612.

● £2000: 817480.
● The rollover, which now stands at £500, was not claimed this week.

● £10: 341117;
201444; 498952; 356327;
338210; 124360; 673780;
161566; 206353; 190866;
174930; 233115; 667330;
199755; 556366; 574222;
846612; 776124; 628332;
221935.

● £5: 477862;
648092; 472996; 732892;
579799; 666246; 149931;
753453; 662323; 448497;

577786; 898734; 653567;
641219; 703208; 396977;
399060; 293592; 473195;
259829; 358773; 350212;
896846; 516544; 871353;
721329; 527848; 246237;
775354; 658386; 384215;
402142; 457772; 137322;
813260; 835689; 798941;
141622; 232587; 786428;
172190; 773816; 877782;
327416; 164174; 375002;
102382; 314263; 577520;
694547; 439060; 275097;
466280; 509033; 359720;
391509; 839898; 285368;
882793; 893366.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.
For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

Art over time at Barry station



Artist Claire Davies begins painting her installation, watched by Barry Station café customer, Tony Cutlan.

THE Travellers Gallery in Barry Station, Broad Street, is being 'Reclaimed by Nature' in 'An Art Installation Over Time' painted directly onto the walls of the gallery by artist Claire Davies.

is the first installation we have had in the Travellers Gallery", said Eve Hart, a member of the planning group which organises the exhibition programme.

"Claire Davies has shown in the gallery before, but this is her first one-person exhibition here. We are sure it will be very popular."

The installation is open on Mondays to Friday mornings, until May 31.

Travellers and commuters can watch the process unfold week by week.

"This exciting project

PACT meetings

BUTTRILLS PACT, Philip John Community House, Barry Library, April 8, at 6.30pm.

YSTRADOWEN Coffee and Chat, White Lion Public House on April 6, at 11.30am.

ST BRIDES MAJOR PACT, St Brides Church Hall on April 7, at 6pm.

WENVOE Coffee and Chat, Beechtree Inn on April 8, at 11.30am.

DINAS POWYS PACT, Bethesda Hall on April 12, at 7pm.

ST AUGUSTINES PACT, Windsor Public House on April 13, at 7pm.

CORNERSWELL PACT, Cogan Leisure Centre on April 13, at 7pm.

PLYMOUTH PACT, Paget Rooms on April 14, at 7pm.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, please contact your local Neighbourhood Policing team or you can log onto www.our-bobby.com

Ty Hafan's plea to 'dress up or down for a pound'

TY HAFAN, the family hospice for young lives, is asking local schools, organisations and groups to take part in their 'Dress Up or Down for a Pound' campaign on April 30.

The life-limited children and young people who visit Ty Hafan in Sully, love to dress up and have fun while making the most of every precious moment they have left with their families. People can show their support for them and join in the fun by dressing up or down and

paying a pound so these life-limited children, young people and their families continue to get the comfort, care and support they so desperately need.

Hayley Mason, a member of the busy family support team at Ty Hafan, remembers the many dressing up sessions which have taken place at the hospice.

"In the past ten years I have been a cowgirl, a fairy, a shepherd, a sheep, a medieval queen, an army cadet, a snowman, a pirate, a Christmas present, a

Christmas tree and a cracker! There is nothing we wouldn't do to raise a smile."

However you decide to dress on April 30, by donating just £1 to Ty Hafan you can help to keep on raising those smiles and making the world of difference to the lives of those who use Ty Hafan's services.

For more information on how you can take part in "Dress Up or Down for a Pound" visit www.dressupordownforapound.co.uk or contact Gaynor on 029 2067 2060.

Valeways walk

JOIN the head gardener of Dyffryn Gardens on Friday, May 14 for a special guided tour of the grounds as part of the Vale of Glamorgan Walking Festival.

Learn more about the seasonal plants as well as the newly restored walled garden.

There will also be the opportunity to find out more about the principles of Thomas Mawson's design, the acclaimed landscape architect commissioned by the Cory Family in early 19th Century.

Booking is essential. While this guided walk is free, discounted admission charges apply.

Visit www.valeofglamorganwalkingfestival.org.uk for the full programme and online booking facility.

Phone bookings and enquiries can also be made by calling Valeways on 01446 749000.

NATIONAL HUNT HORSE RACING

Ystrad Taf Fechan POINT TO POINT
at Uplands Farm, YSTRADOWEN, Cowbridge
Saturday, 17th April - 1st Race 2.00 pm

Enquiries: Call Rob 07748 033229
or Phil 07802 799131
(Come and enjoy a family day out at the races)

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www.maesteganimalrescue.co.uk
Anybody who wants clothes collecting, please contact the above telephone numbers

South Wales Model & Craft SHOW



Recreation Centre, Angel St, Bridgend.

10th & 11th April 2010

With the assistance of F M B C Wales

Including Model Boat Display Pool

Admission £3 adults £2 children

If you know somebody who would like a booking form for this event please contact us at Festivals Office, Cambria House, Wyndham St., Bridgend, CF31 1ED. Telephone 01656 661338.
Email king-barry@btconnect.com, www.bridgend-events.co.uk

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Friday 16th April
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Three guitarists with an incredible stage presence.

Saturday 17th April
Jason Williams - cracking voice, great song list - plus Bingo

Friday 23rd April
James Alexander - great voice, cracking songlist (9pm)

Saturday 24th April
Holly Wilson - Vocalist (9pm)
plus bingo

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Sat 24 April @ 7.30pm

A Baroque Festival - The Welsh Sinfonia and Chorus.

A concert of some favourite pieces from the Baroque era. Sunday 9 May @ 4pm

CINEMA:

Julie & Julia (PG)

Meryl Streep, Amy Adams.
Tues 13 April 7.30pm, Weds 14 April 1.30pm, 7.30pm

Bright Star (PG)

Ben Whishaw, Abbie Cornish, Kerry Fox.
Tues 27 April 7.30pm,
Weds 28 April 1.30pm, 7.30pm

Creation (PG)

Paul Bettany, Jennifer Connelly, Toby Jones.
Tues 4 May 7.30pm,
Weds 5 May 1.30pm, 7.30pm

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Jane Hutt AM

Labour Assembly Member for the Vale of Glamorgan

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115, High Street Barry, CF62 7DT
Tel: 01446 740981

Email: jane.hutt@wales.gov.uk

Next surgery: Saturday April 17th
at 115 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DT
from 9.30 am to 11.30 am

www.janehutt.co.uk



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or email: news@broradio.fm

or contact the Glamorgan GEM on 01446 774484

Barry Island Railway Club enjoys exclusive video film screening

BARRY Island Railway Group recently enjoyed a large screen video presentation at the Barry Docks Conservative Club in Station Street, Barry.

The two-hour show started with exclusive video of American freight diesels being unloaded at Newport Docks last November.

The 3600 hp class 70 locomotives will be used by Freightliner to haul some of the heaviest trains in the UK, and only a small group of reporters and photographers were there to witness their arrival.

More than 400 freight locos have been imported through the docks since 1999, and these were the first from Pennsylvania USA.

We then travelled by train from Cardiff to see the brand new steam loco Tornado.

She then took us on

VINTAGE CRAFT SALE

THERE will be a vintage craft sale on Saturday, April 10, in Wenvoe Community Centre, 10am - 4pm.

Stalls will be selling vintage brocante, fabrics, fashions, jewellery and handmade pieces



The (American) trains now standing on platform...

the East Coast mainline from York to Newcastle.

This was followed by more video of her at Cardiff and Swansea, and finally with our cameraman for a ride in the cab along the West Somerset Railway.

Built over a period of 19 years, it was privately funded at a cost of £3m.

Local interest was satisfied with views of the last train to Parc Slip open cast mine.

Newport Railfare in 1997, a passenger train through Cardiff Docks, and Aberthaw Power Station open day in May 1997.

Finally, steam specials to Treherbert, Rhymney and Radyr, and a visit to Canton Depot in 1996, as well as the last steam locos still in store at Barry in 2009 ended a full evening's entertainment.

The next meeting will be on April 29, featuring 'Dr Richard Griffiths and his Tramway to Pontypridd' with Brian Davies.

MHW

ABOVE:
New diesel locomotives arriving in Newport.

Barrivale Bridge Club news update

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club are as follows:

Tuesday, March 23 - First, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones with 59.90 per cent.

Second were Kay Dyer and Mick Green (56.25).

Third were Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews (55.73).

Hilary Laurence and Vivien Liles won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, telephone 01446 733425.

Fine under-14 cup win for Dinas Powys girls

THE under-14 Dinas Powys girls football team continued their winning ways recently, with a 3-1 victory over Cardiff City in the south Wales under-14 Tesco area cup.

The match was played at Aberaman Park and Dinas Powys went into the final with the tag of favourites, having been undefeated all season and having beaten Cardiff City in the league.

Nevertheless, it was Cardiff City who started brighter and a few nerves showed in the Dinas play. In truth, they were fortunate to go into half-time with a 1-0 lead, although the goal scored



ABOVE: The victorious Dinas Powys girls under-14 side.

by Shanella Evans was a superb finish as she latched on to a through ball.

During the first half, Cardiff City hit the woodwork twice, although on the second occasion, credit must go to the goalkeeper, Mica Buffin, who made a marvellous fingertip save, pushing the ball onto the bar.

When the Dinas Powys girls came out in the second half, they were a completely different team and totally dominated the rest of the game.

Indeed, the only real threat Cardiff imposed on the Dinas Powys goal was a harshly-judged penalty, which in fairness, the Cardiff City striker dispatched with considerable composure.

Many teams would let their heads drop in such situations, but this team has proved throughout the season to be made of sterner stuff and they immediately responded with a well-taken goal by striker Erin Murray.

Shortly thereafter, a Dinas corner kick caused mayhem in the Cardiff City penalty area and Knisha Underdown sneaked the ball in to give them breathing space for the final quarter of the game, which they saw out without any great difficulty.

The team is on course for a double, with four games left in their league campaign and only the bottom teams to play. They have the luxury of being able to afford to lose two games and still win the title.

The girls are also now starting their South Wales Girls Cup campaign, and so a unique treble is not out of the question.

In the Tesco Cup, they now go through to the national finals representing the South Wales Football Association against the other five county associations.

These finals will be held at the university playing fields, Cardiff, on Sunday, April 18, with the winners going through to represent Wales at the UK finals at the Reebok Stadium on May 16.

Congratulations to the team from parents, coaches, and all who have supported them throughout the season.

MW

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GREENACRES, BARRY
• 3 bedroom semi detached property in popular location
• Immaculately presented
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• 2 bedroom semi detached bungalow in sought after location
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• Good sized rear garden
• Gas central heating & double glazed
• Offered freehold

£209,950



ST JULIAN CLOSE, BARRY
• 3 bedroom semi detached property in popular location
• 2 reception rooms
• Large driveway
• In need of some refurbishment throughout
• Offered freehold with vacant possession & no chain

£109,950



ELM GROVE, BARRY
• 3 bedroom semi detached in popular location
• Gas central heating & double glazed
• Off road parking
• In need of refurbishment throughout
• Offered freehold, with vacant possession & no chain

£99,950



BEATRICE ROAD, BARRY
• Well presented 2 bedroom bay fronted mid terrace
• Gas central heating
• Double glazed
• Low maintenance rear garden
• Viewing highly recommended
• Offered freehold

£125,000



LYDSTEP ROAD, BARRY
• 2 bedroom bungalow
• Gas central heating
• Double glazed
• Driveway
• Unfurnished

£550pcm



LOWER GUTHRIE STREET, BARRY
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• Unfurnished

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Howard Court, Barry
Superb First Floor Apartment with 1 reception, 2 bedrooms and fitted kitchen. Bathroom with separate WC, Gas CH(Comb), UPVC DG, Garage and Allocated Parking. No Chain. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

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Vistamar House, Barry Waterfront
Ground Floor Flat with 1 reception, 2 bedrooms, separate kitchen, bathroom and en-suite. Elec Heating and UPVC DG. Parking and water views. No Chain. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

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Heol Draenen Wen, Culverhouse Cross
Attractive Modern Home with living room, kitchen, conservatory and 2 bedrooms. 1st floor bathroom/WC, Gas CH, UPVC DG. Parking and garden adjoining fields. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

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2 bed ground floor flat

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Refurbished 2 bed first floor apartment

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Two bed first floor apartment with garden

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Woodlands Road, Barry
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Philadelphia Close, Barry
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£152,950



Brynhill Close, Barry
End Terrace with 2 receptions, 3 Bedrooms. Modern Kitchen and utility room. Bathroom/WC Gas CH, Garage, front and rear gardens. Superb Rural Views. Call Gareth on 01446 709943

£179,950



Gwenol Y Mor, Barry Island
Superb semi with lounge, conservatory, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, cloak/wc, en-suite and family bathroom. Gas CH, UPVC DG, garage and Handstand. Private Rear Garden. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

£189,950



Barriars Way, Barry
Superb 4 bed detached, lounge, diner, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, cloak/wc, bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, garage, drive & sunny rear garden. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

£199,950



Pontypridd Road, Barry
Lovely extended semi with 3 bedrooms and 3 receptions. Kitchen/Breakfast Room and refitted 1st floor bathroom. Gas CH, UPVC DG and stunning 190' rear garden. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

£279,950



Glan - Y Mor, The Knap
Attractive Modern House with 2 receptions, 3 bedrooms, kitchen, cloak/wc and family bathroom. Gas CH, UPVC DG, 4/5 car drive plus garage. Outstanding Channel Views. Call Sharon on 01446 709942

£114,950



The Wheate Close, Rhooose
2 bed modern first time buy, lounge with patio doors, modern kitchen & bathroom, gas ch, double glazing, car hardstand, sunny gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

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Beaufort Way, Rhooose
2 Bed semi, lounge/diner, kitchen/breakfast room, stunning bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, No Chain, gardens, driveway & garage. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

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Readers Way, Rhooose
3 bed superbly presented semi, lounge/dining room, tucked away, No Chain, 1st floor bathroom, upvc dg, gas ch, gardens, parking & garage. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

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Wesley Avenue, Rhooose
2 bed extended semi detached bungalow, 23' lounge/diner, upvc dg conservatory, modern kitchen & bathroom, upvc dg, gas ch, No Chain, long drive, garage & large gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

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Channel Close, Rhooose
3 bed superb semi bungalow, 2 receptions, kitchen, large utility, refitted bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, gardens, drive & garage. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

£199,950



Wesley Avenue, Rhooose
3 bed superb semi bungalow, lounge, kitchen, utility/breakfast room, refitted bath/shower room, gas ch, upvc dg, No Chain, superb gardens, drive & garage. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

£199,950



Heol Y Dryw, Rhooose Point
4 bed superbly positioned house, lounge with sea views, kitchen/dining room, 2 en-suites, bathroom, upvc dg, gas ch, No Chain, 2 car drive, garage & gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

£219,950



Maes Lindys, Rhooose Point
4 bed detached family home, 2 receptions, kitchen/breakfast room, cloak, en-suite, bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, games room, 5-6 car drive & gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

£295,000



Bryn Y Gloyn, Rhooose Point
4 bed detached with water views, 2 receptions, 17' kitchen/family room, 2 en-suites, bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, double garage, 4/5 car drive & gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

£349,950



Porfa Ballas, Rhooose Point
6 bed stunning executive detached, 3 receptions, outstanding panoramic views, cloak, en-suite, bathroom, gas ch, upvc dg, No Chain, double garage & gardens. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

£395,000



Bryn Y Gloyn, Rhooose Point
5 bed stunning detached, 4 receptions, No Chain, superb kitchen/dining space, cloak, 2/3 en-suites, bathroom, sauna & hot tub, large gardens, 6 car drive & double garage. Call Andrew on 01446 713001

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TO A VERY SPECIAL PERSON

Christine Williamson

14 April 2010

60? Never!

All our love, sweetheart, on your special day.

From YOTL (Mike!),
Hannah and James XXX

P.S. Save some jelly for me!



Hannah Simmons
GOTCHA!
Happy 18th Birthday
Sunday 11th April
Lots of love, Mum.
x x x

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Family Notices

Barbara PRICE

Anne, Peter and their families would like to thank all Barbara's family and friends for their support and kindness over the past weeks and for attending the services of celebration of Barbara's life on 23rd March.

Brian WELCH

Died peacefully on March 31, 2010. Brian, beloved husband of Anne, and a much-loved father and grandfather. Funeral service in St Tathan Church on Monday April 12, 2010 at 2pm. Family flowers only, but donations may be made by cheque to the Alzheimers Disease Society c/o WA Brown & Son, College St, Llantwit Major.

DAVIES

John Stephen (1921-2010)
John passed peacefully away in the early hours of Thursday March 18, 2010.

He is survived by his loving wife Barbara and his '4 boys', Stephen, Roderic, David, Nigel and their families.

Born in 1921, JS was one of life's givers. He gave his all to his family and friends, and also in his exploits on the rugby field and in support of Penarth RFC in their 'glory' days, and latterly with Cowbridge.

As a representative for Spillers/Dalgely for over 30 years, he was devoted to his many farming customers. In his retirement he enjoyed farming at Arfryn and then a return to his 'roots' in Ceredigion.

Most recently, he suffered increasingly from dementia, which he bore like a Trojan. He was supported tirelessly by Barbara, who was with him to the end. He was kind and selfless and will be greatly missed.

Funeral strictly private. Family only.
No flowers.

PATCHETT, Anne

Peacefully on March 28th at Llandough Hospital, Anne of St Mary Church, beloved wife of the late Clarence. Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Ffnonon.

Funeral Wednesday, April 14th, service 2pm at St Mary Parish Church, Nr Cowbridge, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.15pm. Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home. Donations in lieu if desired, to Royal British Legion, c/o J James, 11 Ffnonon Road, Rhosce, CF62 3DZ.

Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003

CHERYL DAY has applied for the variation of a premises licence pursuant to Sections 34/37 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the following licensing activities at Cafe Des Amis, 4 Washington Buildings, Stanwell Road, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan CF64 2AD.

The application is to vary the premises licence to provide live music, recorded music, performance of dance, dancing, each day of the week from 1100 hrs to 0030 hrs; and the sale by retail of alcohol every day of the week from 1100hrs to 0030 hrs.

The application can be inspected at the Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Section, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU. Any interested party/responsible authority may make representations to the relevant Licensing Authority by May 1, 2010. Any representation shall be made in writing.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction being £5,000.

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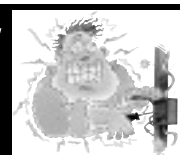
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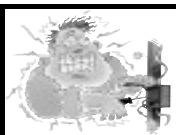
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Hensol villagers plant for a splash of springtime colour



ABOVE: Patches of daffodils are blooming throughout Hensol, after villagers planted more than 400 bulbs.

VILLAGERS in Hensol have added a real splash of colour to the village after planting more than 400 daffodil bulbs earlier this year.

The unseasonably cold weather meant that it took longer than usual for the daffs to appear, but the village is now bright with yellow flowers along the verges.

The idea came from two villagers, Lola Worgan and Emma Newman. Lola told The GEM: "This year, we decided to really make a splash in springtime, and lots of people joined in to help with the planting."

NEWS FROM POSITIVE IMAGE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Imax 3D makes its way to Barry...

SOME time ago, I went to an Imax Cinema in Sydney, Australia, and it was one of the most bizarre experiences of my life, a correspondent writes.

The film was a gothic horror flick that was so awful it was hilarious – but the '3 Dimensional' effect was absolutely amazing. I came out thinking 'what a waste' and wondering why mainstream cinema films aren't made in 3D?

I now know why – they would cost too much to make because, before digital imaging, you had to use two cameras and two projectors and twice as much film.

Bernard Brown's '3D Extravaganza' [PIPS March 25] was amazing. Dubbed 'The Welsh Wizard' by the editor of the Journal of The Stereoscopic Society of Great Britain, he began by giving us a tour of the American National Parks.

Stunning landscape followed on stunning landscape, all in thoroughly convincing 3D. From my seat in the front row I had to resist the temptation to get up and walk off into the sunset in Monument Valley.

Even more fascinating was a sequence of pictures that followed the building of the second Severn Crossing. Bernard revisited choice viewpoints regularly from the laying of the first supports in the riverbed to the official opening walkover.

The added perspective of 3D really brought home what a gigantic project it was. Bernard's picture of the last section being put into place – in the middle – and lining up exactly – was amazing!

During the second part of the evening, Bernard demonstrated how it was done.

In the dark ages before digital photography, he used two cameras, mounted on a bar to replicate the distance between human eyes.

For really wide-open spaces he had to place the cameras several feet apart. Bernard then went on to show how the effect is now created digitally. This involves all sorts of jiggery-pokery with 'bump map' image filters and shifting pixies left and right.

We will not forget the digitally created fantasy images and the 3D pictures of far away galaxies that Bernard used for the grand climax of the evening in a hurry.

The next meeting is

on April 8, with local lads, Tony Warrilow, on 'The essence of wildlife photography', and Dave Hales, who will surprise us because we don't know what he is going to do yet!

Positive Image Photographic Society meets at 7-30pm on alternative Thursday evenings at St Baruc's Church, Phyllis Street Barry Island. New members will be made very welcome.

Further details of the club and forthcoming events including forthcoming competition details are on the societies website at www.positiveimagebarry.org.uk.

Club hands over cheque for mini bus fund



ABOVE: Elisabeth Millard (treasurer), Mike Edwards (Chairman VOPF) and Rene Gannon.

THE Wednesday Afternoon club from Dinas Powys held a lunch at St Andrews Major golf club where they received a visit from the Chairperson of the Older People's Strategy Forum, Mike Edwards, who presented a cheque for £100 to the treasurer Elisabeth Millard.

The money was a contribution to Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern's mini bus, bought with donations from the people of Dinas Powys for the benefit of the elderly and disabled.

National Trust talk on castle

VALE of Glamorgan Association of National Trust members met recently in Cowbridge, to hear an interesting talk by Dr Kate Roberts, from CADW, on 'Kidwelly Castle'.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 21 at 7.30pm in the Duke of Wellington when the speaker, Mr Mike Clubb, will talk about 'The Bridgend Arsenal'.

Membership of the Association is open to any interested person who is a paid-up member of the National Trust or National Trust for Scotland, or spouse/partner of a life member; a National Trust staff member or volunteer.

The annual subscription (payable on January 1) is: £7.50 for one National Trust member; £10 for two members; reduced to £3.75 and £5, respectively, for those joining after June.

In the spring and summer, trips are organised to various National Trust properties. New members welcome.

For further information, contact the membership secretary on 01443 223230.

Diabetes group
DIABETES UK
Cynru Vale of Glamorgan voluntary group is meeting on Tuesday, April 20 in the board room at Llandough Hospital, Penarth, starting at 7.30pm.

The speaker is Ms Kathleen Shiels and new members are always welcome; for enquiries, please telephone 01446 746639.

Gala concert
LLANDAFF Musical Society is presenting a gala concert, featuring well-known music at Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, Trinity Street, Barry.

It takes place on Friday, April 23 at 7.30pm. Proceeds are for church funds; tickets £5, or pay at the door.

Penarth and District Ramblers roundup

Water, water, everywhere... in Merthyr

NINE walkers joined leader Val Hartrey for the journey up to Cefn-Coed-y-Cymmer, and they began their walk from Cyfarthfa Castle.

Built for £30,000 in 1825 by the Ironmaster William Crawshay 11, this mock castle, complete with towers and turrets made of local stone and surrounded by 160-acres of parkland, overlooked the family-owned ironworks on the other side of the River Taff.

Leaving the castle grounds, the group made their way across Cefn bridge, and via steps joined the banks of the Taff Fechan River, which were waterlogged following recent rain and very muddy.

The river footbridge led them to the western bank of the Taff Fechan Nature Reserve, established in 1975, where they slithered along muddy paths through the woods, which in places became rivers and had to be waded through!

Navigating a wide drainage channel that had turned into a pond and crossing a meadow full of pregnant ponies, the group made their way to the Blue Pool (Pwll Glas) and stopped for morning coffee while watching four young men attempting to canoe down the river.

Crossing the road and continuing along the river bank, the group made their way under the 455-foot long, 92-foot high and 7-arched Pontsarn Viaduct.

Five acres of land on the west bank, including the Blue Pool, was presented to the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority by Whitbread Brewers in 1986 for the great sum of £1, and a plaque on the viaduct wall commemorates this.

They journeyed on through meandering paths in the woods towards Vaynor, where a spectacular waterfall was crashing down into the flooded valley from below Vaynor church.

Climbing up to visit the church, they saw two toads beside the path, but at the church were thwarted by the arrival of a wedding party, and not wishing to invade their privacy, the visit was postponed for another day.

The wooden bridge over the river had a huge gap in its floor, where planks had been removed and burnt – so great care had to be taken while crossing, before they climbed uphill to join the Taff Trail.

Another steep climb through woods up a path that was running with water followed, before they emerged onto the

open hillside, where a buzzard soared overhead and their climb ended at Morlais Castle quarries where it was quite breezy.

Lunch was enjoyed in the shelter of huge limestone rocks, while skylarks trilled overhead.

Before they left, there was a clear view to the central Brecon Beacon mountain tops and away in the distance the Merthyr mountain railway train was chugging along and puffing out steam that rose in a high cloud.

The quarry floors had huge lakes in them following the thawing of snow and recent heavy rainfall.

However, further along several people were enjoying the sport of rock climbing.

From the quarry top a single red kite flew up into the sky and down across the woodland below, before the group moved on to descend gradually, and cross the road to join the opposite bank of the nature reserve.

Here it was evident just how much the river was swollen, and following the limestone gorge down river with its various pothole shapes created by the passing of time and water damage, the rapids were swirling masses of thundering clear water crashing downhill.

Retracing their steps at the bottom of the Cwm, the group walked back to Cyfarthfa Castle, now a school and museum, and visited the café for some liquid refreshment before the journey home.

On April 10, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 10-mile hard walk climbing Twmpa in the Black Mountains from Glasbury; contact Barrie on 029 2053 0753.

On April 13, meet at 9am at Cogan for an eight-mile moderate walk at St Mellons; contact Viv/Val on 029 2053 1045 (this walk has been moved forward from 20 April).

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks.

Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice.

For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY
STRANGWARD

Slow start to season for Brynhill ladies

ONLY two competitions were played in January and both were over nine holes and on temporary greens.

January 19: Winner – Jane Phillips 20 points; runner-up – Linda Hewlett 19 points.

January 26: Winner – Jo Hopkins 14 points; runner-up – Glynis Gould 13 points.

Fortunately, the 'Meet for lunch' competition on February 2 went ahead, and about two dozen ladies braved the conditions and played 10 holes.

Winner: Audrey Phillips 16 points; runner-up: Rose Pitman 15 points.

Afterwards, competitors were joined in the clubhouse by other lady members for drinks, and an enjoyable two-course lunch.

February 23: Winter



Left to right: Vice-captain Robbie Lee, lady captain Linda Hewlett.

competition over eight holes: Winner – Di Maria Gentile 23 points; runner-up – Audrey Phillips 11 points.

March 2: (nine holes): Winner – Barbara Watkins 18 points; runner-up – Maria Gentile 17 points.

March 9: Turkey Trot

over 12 holes: Winner – Maria Gentile 23 points (over back six from Sam Pascoe).

March 23: Easter egg competition over 12 holes: Winner – Maria Gentile 22 points; runner-up – Robbie Lee 21 points.

JP

Lecturer's exhibition

CARDIFF's Canfas gallery is presenting an exhibition of photographs and drawings by Barry College lecturer Jonathan Williams until April 24.

He has illustrated more than 30 books in the UK and Europe, has a masters degree in graphic communication from the University of Glamorgan and designed and produced the Captain Scott memorial situated in Cardiff bay. The artwork will also be exhibited in Barcelona later in the year.

The exhibition is in support of The Mullany Fund - a memorial to Dr Catherine and Ben Mullany - committed to providing opportunities for students in UK schools of medicine and physiotherapy.



'Meet for Lunch' winner Audrey Phillips.

BARRY SWIMMING AGM CELEBRATES THE CLUB'S SUCCESSES OVER 2009

THE chairperson, Heulwen Cooper welcomed everyone to the Barry Amateur Swimming Club AGM on March 6.

Julie Crayford kindly agreed to present the trophies this year. Julie used to be a member of our masters section but is now a member of the Cardiff Masters Swimming club and is a gold medallist in many national and international competitions, and is also a Welsh record holder.

Life members were also welcomed to the meeting.

Ray Owens, previous club president and his wife Sheila Owens, Geoff Doonan, Stephanie Cody, Jenny Wilcox, Mike Looker and Teresa Wheeler.

A special welcome was extended to Cherrie Temple, it was fantastic to see her looking so well after her heart transplant.

The club has had a successful year competing both as a team and as individuals.

Congratulations to Georgia Looker and Lauren Williamson for

their continued involvement in the Swim Wales Skills Program and also to Tristan Cuer who was called up as a guest swimmer, along with Georgia and Lauren, at the recent regional challenge meet in Swansea.

Apologies were received from our chief coach, Malcolm Wilson. The following committee members stood again and were re-elected.

Chairman, Heulwen Cooper; treasurer/membership secretary Elaine Romain; chief coach Malcolm Wilson; fixture secretary Martin Harries; child protection officer and chief fundraiser Teresa Wheeler.

Trudi Phillips, club secretary, has decided to stand down after many years and she will be missed by all. Louise Hamer has agreed to take over this roll.

The club captains for 2010-11 are Alana Wilson, Michael Crompton and Alice Lewis; vice captains Lindsey Kerslake and Rhys Perry.

The evening moved on to the presentation of the winners and finalists of the winter 2009 championships.

After these awards were given out, the special awards were presented.

Best runner-up trophy went to joint winners for the boys Michael Crompton and Ryan Taylor, and for the girls Samantha Blake and Georgia Looker.

Best newcomer went to Katie Prynn and Tristan Cuer; best novice swimmer, Isabelle Peter and Rhys James; most improved swimmer, Amelia Rowlands and Michael Crompton.

The loyalty cup went to Barrie Crompton and the King's Lynn ladies cup to Kay Rogers.

The lady club member of the year went to Elaine Romain and the male club member of the year to Martin Harries.

Special thanks were extended to Trudi Phillips for her dedication and hard work over the years and she was presented with life membership.

Heulwen Cooper closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

LH



ABOVE: Julie Crayford being presented with flowers by vice captain Alice Lewis.



ABOVE: Alana Wilson club captain, Trudi Phillips being presented with her life membership and chairperson Heulwen Cooper.

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Honours are even in 'atrocious' conditions

THESE two old rivals met at Jenner Park and were welcomed by high winds and heavy downpours – however, the weather did not dampen the enthusiasm of both teams.

Due to injury and unavailability, Gavin Chesterfield was forced into two changes from Saturday's starting line-up with Lewis Cosslett and James Simpson starting in place of Damon Searle and Scott Jones.

Ton started much the livelier and they were soon putting the Dragons' defence under pressure, but just as we all thought they had weathered this initial storm, a hard low cross into the penalty area deflected off defender Dan Clare and into the net before keeper Dan Bradley could react.

With only eight minutes gone, there was plenty of time for Barry

BARRY TOWN TON PENTRE

2
2

Town to get back in the game. The team started to get to grips with their game, but some resolute defending by Ton kept The Dragons at bay.

They kept plugging away and were rewarded when a low cross into the Ton six-yard box was steered into the net impressively by Ian Jones with 30 minutes gone.

After a long time out with niggly injuries, Ian is starting to show the goalkeeping abilities that he is renowned for.

It was a deserved equaliser and both teams continued to play some good football without further troubling the 'keepers.

The second half continued in the same vein with both teams playing attacking football despite the atrocious conditions.

The play was end-to-end, but the stout defending from both

defences limited goalscoring opportunities.

Ton eventually took the lead, again from a mistake in The Dragons' defence. Alyn Jones, who was unmarked on the edge of the box, beat Dan Bradley.

Although there was still 20 minutes to go, this looked like the winner, as so few chances were being created.

One thing that can be said about this team, though, is that they do not give up easily.

Gavin Chesterfield brought on Sam Small, Jaymes Dixon and

Michael Parkins to try to rescue at least a point from the game.

With time now running out and only seconds left of time added on, a great cross from the right landed at the feet of Sam Small who, 15 yards out, curled the ball past the helpless Ton 'keeper to give the Dragons the point they deserved.

Ton only had time to kick off before the referee brought proceedings to an end.

A most enjoyable game in atrocious condition and supported by three officials who did their best to keep the game flowing.

DAVID COLE

The View win out in a 'thrilling' game of rugby

TONGWYNLAIS RFC THE SEA VIEW (BARRY)

17
22

ON Saturday, The View travelled for a bottom of the table clash with friends Tongwynlais – winning this match would ensure the victors didn't finish bottom.

With such a lot riding on the outcome you would have expected a tactical percentage game, in fact both sets of supporters were treated to a thrilling game of running rugby.

Early pressure from The View soon told, as Tongwynlais infringement giving Damion

Huggins a chance for early points, a superb kick was judged wide by one judge, over by the other! In fairness, the small posts made a clear decision difficult.

It wasn't long before The View opened the scoring. A lineout in the Tongwynlais 22 was won and fly-half Glynn Smith burst through desperate Tong tackles to score close to the post.

Huggins left the touch judges in no doubt with a cracking conversion.

Sea View continued applying the pressure, Leon Ford going close, Tongwynlais defended well, their full-back



ABOVE: Sea View on the attack.

clearing his lines time and again only to see the View wingers Ben Cotter and Aaron Bond run the ball straight back at him.

A lineout deep in Tongwynlais territory led to a try from flanker Chris Hann, collecting his own throw from Azzopardi. The View pack drove over the line for Hann to score.

The posts again beat Huggins but The View were in a commanding 12-0 lead. The pack was dominant in the set piece and the loose, the engine room of Leon Ford and Gareth Lowes providing a solid platform for the front row of Burston, Veness and Huelin.

Wayne Burston had a fine game in the loose, carrying the ball well and deftly passing out of contact.

With half-time looming, Tongwynlais scored

two tries. Half-time score 12-12.

View were down a man after Cotter's yellow card and the second half began with them under pressure from an invigorated Tongwynlais.

The never-say-die character of the View however shone through. With Cotter back on the field, it was Glyn Smith who settled The View nerves, scoring two more tries to restore the lead 12-22.

Tongwynlais came back to score a try, to close the gap to 17-22. The final five minutes saw The View defend comfortably to earn themselves a well-deserved victory!

The View's final league game of the season is a home fixture on April 10 against Sully Sports.

MV

State of Play makes Grand National bid

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

State Of Play, trained by Evan Williams at Llancarfan, bids to become the first horse trained in Wales to win the world's greatest steeplechase – the Aintree Grand National – on Saturday since Kirkland, trained at Lawrenny Park near Tenby was successful in 1905.

State Of Play, a 20-1 chance, finished fourth of the 17 finishers in last year's race, won by 100-1 outsider Mom Mome and might well have finished a lot nearer to the winner but for making mistakes half-way through the race.

It was back in 1937 that another Welshman called Evan Williams, the 24-year-old son of Fred Williams of the Bear Hotel and the starter at Ely Racecourse, and also from Cowbridge, rode Royal Mail to success.

When asked by the press what he thought about his success, he replied: "What can I say? I have won the Grand National, and I am naturally delighted.

"Give the credit to the horse. He jumped perfectly and cleverly. He made one or two mistakes, but they were not entirely his fault."

One thing certain, if State Of Play is successful his trainer won't be short of words.

The rearranged Glamorgan Hunt Point-to-Point Steeplechases also take place this Saturday at Ystradowen and there are more than 100 entries for the six races.

Robert Thomas's Mick's Prospect can get backers off to a good start in the members' race at 1pm.

David Brace's O' Rage will be fancied to take the young horse maiden and Ian Brice's Cool Cliche has Little Miss Monty to beat in the aged maiden.

David Oakes's Opal Ridge has Hummel Origins to contend with in the club members' race and King's Euro, Chandlers Cross and Silver Story are down to run in the mixed open race.

There are 26 entries for the restricted and Rimini and Farnoghe have Carmen Goldworthy's On Oath to beat.

ISLAND MARINE UNDER-13S SCOOP A SPONSORSHIP DEAL



LEFT: Island Marine under-13s are pictured in the kit sponsored by R & M Williams.

St Richard Gwyn pupils try archery

ARCHERY sessions have been introduced after school at St Richard Gwyn Catholic School in Barry to help both and boys and girls hit the national target of taking part in five hours of exercise a week.

The sessions have been arranged thanks to the innovative 5x60 scheme, which provides extra-curricular activities to encourage secondary school pupils across Wales to get active for at least 60 minutes, five days a week (5x60).

The school's 5x60 officer, Ben Williams, added: "Archery is tempting a number of new faces to take part in 5x60 sessions, and they are all enjoying having a go at something new."

"It's great to see a lot of girls getting involved



Archery sessions are helping attract girls in the Vale to take part in extra-curricular sporting activities as part of the 5x60 scheme.

and I hope that word will continue to get around that 5x60 sessions are the place to be at lunchtime and after school."

You can find out more about the 5x60 scheme in the Vale online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/5x60

ISLAND MARINE under-13 football club would like to thank R and M Williams for sponsoring their kit during this season.

Paul Richards, procurement manager for R and M Williams, said: "This is the second year that the company has sponsored a junior side. We are very pleased to be able to promote youth developments within the community and wish the club all the success for the future."

The club currently play in the Vale of Glamorgan under-13 league.



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185/50R15	Bridgestone B250	£73.25	£132	£255	185/50R15	Avon ZVS	£53.25	£102	£199	185/50R15	Hayal	£37.25	£70	£135
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195/50R15	Bridgestone B250	£75.25	£135	£260	195/50R15	Avon ZVS	£49.25	£115	£220	195/50R15	Maxxis	£43.25	£80	£150
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205/50R16	Bridgestone B250	£75.25	£145	£275	205/50R16	Avon ZVS	£65.25	£120	£230	205/50R16	Hero	£68.25	£90	£170
205/50R17	Bridgestone B250	£103.25	£199	£390	205/50R17	Avon ZVS	£86.25	£165	£320	205/50R17	Hero	£54.25	£100	£190
225/50R18	Bridgestone B250	£132.25	£250	£480	225/50R18	Avon ZVS	£101.25	£195	£375	225/50R18	Hero	£68.25	£120	£230

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- 52 NISSAN Almera 1.8 SVE 5-dr Hatchback. In caterpillar green with grey tungsten cloth, cd, a/c, reversing sensors, colour coded bumpers, only 44,300 miles.....£3,995
- 01 Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-dr Saloon. In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles.....£4,295

SMALL

- 09 09 CHEVROLET Aveo LT 1.4 in pearl black with bricket cloth, aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 16,900 miles.....£6,995
- 58 VAUXHALL Corsa Breeze 1.0 12v 3-dr hatchback in lightning silver with dark upholstery, air con, alloy wheels, cd with auxiliary input, colour coded bumpers, only 12,970 miles.....£7,295
- 58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C). 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles.....£8,495
- 58 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 VVTi T2 5-dr Hatchback. In crystal silver, electric windows and mirrors, CD, multi-function steering wheel, only 3,725 miles.....£7,995
- 07 07 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1. 5-dr Hatchback in silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,550 miles.....£5,995
- 56 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 VVTi T3 3-dr in eclipse black with Piccadilly cloth interior, a/c, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers and privacy glass, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 30,305 miles.....£6,495
- 06 06 FORD Fiesta Zetec 5-dr. In panther black with dark interior, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, only 18,131 miles.....£5,995
- 06 06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted auto controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles.....£5,995
- 05 05 MINI 1.6 One (salt) 3-dr Hatchback. In pure silver with anthracite interior, 6 CD changer, automatic dipping rear-view mirror, panoramic roof, body coloured bumpers, only 39,600 miles.....£7,995
- 04 04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr in platinum silver with full black astrakhan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles.....£6,495
- 04 04 FORD Fiesta 1.4 SILVER Limited Edition. In moon dust silver with full midnight black leather, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, cd, only 29,775 miles.....£4,995
- 04 04 ROVER Streetwise 1.4 16v 3-dr in trophy yellow with sebring half leather interior, cd, roof rails, rear spoiler, alarm and immobiliser, only 41,590 miles.....£3,495
- 53 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v SXi 3-dr hatchback in black with dark interior, colour coded bumpers, alloy wheels, cd, only 45,800 miles.....£3,795
- 02 02 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S 2-dr in silver with full black astrakhan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 64,220 miles.....£5,495
- 52 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback in met silver with dark interior, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 48,060 miles.....£3,495
- 01 51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet SE 2-dr in platinum silver with full black astrakhan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46,010 miles.....£3,995



05 05 MERCEDES Benz M-Class 2.7 TD ML270 CDI Automatic 5-dr Station Wagon. In Brilliant silver with Orion grey leather interior, climate control, Bluetooth phone prep, privacy glass, heated seats, rear parking sensors, only 52,975 miles.....£15,995



05 05 VW Bora 1.9 TDI Highline 4-Dr Saloon. In black with beige leather interior, air con, heated seats, rear parking sensors, cruise control, only 57,655 miles.....£7,495



01 Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-dr Saloon. In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles.....£4,295



02 52 NISSAN Almera 1.8 SVE 5-dr Hatchback. In caterpillar green with grey tungsten cloth, cd, a/c, reversing sensors, colour coded bumpers, only 44,300 miles.....£3,995



06 55 AUDI A3 2.0T FSI 5-dr Sport Back in Avus silver with matrix cloth interior, BOSE speaker system, 17 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, climate control, cd, only 39,280 miles.....£11,995



02 02 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S 2-dr in platinum silver with full black astrakhan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 64,220 miles.....£5,495



06 06 FORD Fiesta Zetec 5-dr. In panther black with dark interior, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, only 18,131 miles.....£5,995



01 51 JAGUAR S-Type 3.0 V6 4-dr Saloon Automatic. In Pacific blue with cashmere beige full leather interior, climate control, CD, electric seats, rear parking sensors, only 55,810 miles.....£4,995

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54 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 S SDI 5dr (A/C) Diesel. Please feel free to contact our sales team on 01446 738088 . .£5,995



55 Mazda 3 1.6 5dr TS2 in grey met, 5-door, ONLY 47k, alloys, air con, pas, climate . .£5,995



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07 Seat Ibiza 1.4 Stylance 5dr in silver met, NEW SHAPE, ONLY 13k, pas, CD player, air con, electric windows . .£5,995



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03 Peugeot 206 GTi 180 3dr SP3 (a/c) Please feel free to contact our sales team on 01446 738088 . .£4,495



53 Peugeot 206 2.0 HDI D Turbo 3dr in moonstone silver, DIESEL only 46k. Alloys, air con, e/w, e/m, pas . .£4,495



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03 Renault Megane Dynamique 1.4 16v 5dr in blue met, low insurance 5dr covered 70K. Immaculate, a/c, e/w, card act sys .£3,795



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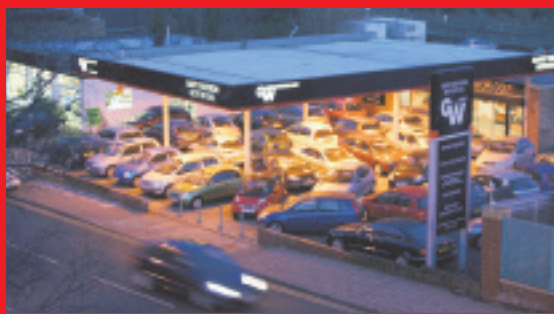
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07 NISSAN 350Z bhp GT. In silver with black leather trim, low mileage local top of the range sports car at£17,995



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05	MERCEDES CLK 220 CDI. In silver with grey leather trim, 60,000 miles, usual refinements.	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £13,995
53	JAGUAR XJ8 3.6 Automatic. In silver with cream leather trim, 53,000 miles, luxury motoring at	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £10,995
05	AUDI A4 Avant 1.9TDi SE. In silver, 50,000 miles, desirable diesel estate at	£10,995
04	VW Beetle 2.0 Convertible. In red, 47,000 miles, 1 owner, 4 seater convertible	£8,995
03	AUDI TT 180. In met blue with black leather trim, 74,000 miles	£8,995
56	RENAULT Megane 2.0 Convertible. In met blue, 31,000 miles, 4-seater convertible at	£7,995
53	MERCEDES 320CLK Auto. In light met blue with charcoal leather trim, host of extras on this sports coupe	£7,995
51	MERCEDES SLK 200 Kompressor. In electric blue, 39,000 miles, 2 owner convertible at	£7,995
04	MINI Cooper Chilli. In electric blue with black roof, 42,000 miles with upgrades, alloys, climate control etc.	£7,295
05	RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique CC. In silver, 43,000 miles, 4 seater convertible at	£6,995
04	JEEP Cherokee CRD. In met blue, low mileage go anywhere diesel at	£6,995
02	JAGUAR S Type 2.5 SE Auto. Silver with black leather, low mileage, local car	£5,995
R	MERCEDES SLK 230 Auto. In green black with two tone leather trim, great value Mercedes Convertible at	£4,995
52	PEUGEOT 206cc 2.0 SE. In silver with black leather trim, 57,000 miles, 4-seater convertible.	£4,995
02	PEUGEOT 206cc 20. In met-blue with black leather trim, 58,000 mile convertible at	£4,695
02	TOYOTA Corolla T-Sport 3-dr. In champagne metallic, 63,000 miles, 1 local owner, FSH.	REDUCED BY £300 TO £3,995
06	MGZR 14 (105) 3-dr. In thorny blue, 46,000 miles, low insurance with alloys, cd, etc.	£3,995
02	MG ZT 2.5. In silver with sports interior, looks and drives superb at	£3,795

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07	RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique Automatic 5-dr. In met sand, 18,000 miles, 1 owner	£6,995
07	SUZUKI Swift 1.5 GLX 5-dr. In black, 13,000 miles, high specification model at	£6,995
07	RENAULT Laguna 2.0 DCi 150 Expression 5-Dr. In met. Blue, 32,000 miles, 1 owner, with sat nav etc.	£6,995
56	FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec Climate Automatic 3-dr. In black, 12,000 miles, superb value at	£6,995
55	HONDA Civic 1.6 Executive 5-dr. In forest pearl silver with black leather trim, 35,000 miles, fsh	REDUCED BY £500 TO £6,995
07	FIAT Grande Punto 1.4 Dynamique Sport Automatic. Met blue, 23,000 miles	REDUCED BY £500 TO £6,495
07	RENAULT Clio 12 Expression 3-dr. In steel blue, 33,000 miles with a/c, c/d, etc	£6,495
56	FORD Focus 1.4LX 5-dr. In electric blue, 30,000 miles with a/c, cd, etc	£6,495
56	PEUGEOT 307 1.6S 5-Dr. In black, low mileage example with alloys, a/c, etc, ideal family hatch.	£6,295
57	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Look 3-dr. In diablo red, 24,000 miles, under manufacturer warranty	REDUCED BY £300 TO £5,995
04	TOYOTA Corolla 2.0 D4D T3 5-dr. In silver, 54,000 mile diesel with sat-nav	£5,995
04	VOLVO S60 2.4 D5 SE. In met silver birch, 63,000 miles, high specification diesel at	£5,995
04	VW Passat 1.9TDi Highliner 130 Automatic. In silver with black leather, 84,000 miles, high spec	£5,695
07	CITROEN C4 1.4 LX 5-dr. In gun metal met, 35,000 miles, stylish hatch at	£5,495
55	PEUGEOT 407 2.0 HDi SE. In met grey, 51,000 miles, comfortable stylish diesel at	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,495
55	NISSAN Primara 2.0 SX 5-dr. In silver, 35,000 miles with sat-nav, alloys, etc	£5,495
52	VW Golf 1.9 GTDi 130 bhp 5-dr. In silver, sought after diesel at	£5,495
08	FIAT Panda 1.1 Active. In met-blue, 15,000 miles with cd etc, under FIAT warranty	£4,995
55	MITSUBISHI Colt 1.5Di - D Equipe 3-dr. In met-grey 41,000 miles, diesel hatch with low running costs.	£4,995
54	RENAULT Megane VVTi Privilege Automatic 5-dr. Met jade, half leather trim, low mileage	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995
51	PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Quiksilver 3-dr. 31,000 miles, sought-after limited edition model	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995
05	TOYOTA Celica 1.8VVTi. In blue, 75,000 miles with glass roof, rear spoiler etc.	£4,995
06	CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 Sport 3-dr. In black, with black leather trim, 37,000 miles.	£4,695
04	FORD Fiesta 1.4 Flame. In electric blue, low mileage example with alloys, cd, etc.	£4,495
04	FORD Fiesta 1.4 Silver 3-Dr. 62,000 miles with full leather trim, A/C, CD etc.	£4,495
04	FORD Focus 1.6 Edge 5-dr. In light met-blue, low mileage example with alloys, a/c, etc.	£4,495
06	FORD Ka 1.3 Collection. In Apple green, 23,000 miles with decals.	REDUCED BY £800 TO £3,995
05	MITSUBISHI Colt 1.3 Equipe 3-dr. In birch met, 41,000 miles, ideal economic hatch at	£3,995
05	VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Twin Port SXi. In met silver, 48,000 miles, 1 local owner.	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £3,995
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03	VAUXHALL Astra 1.6Si 5-dr. In black, 61,000 miles, ideal family hatch at	£3,295
54	DAEWOO Lacetti 1.6 SXi 5-dr. In jade met, 53,000 miles with a/c, c/d, alloys, etc	£2,995
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07 07 RENAULT Clio
1.2 Campus,
grey met, 39k miles



£9,975

07 07 MAZDA RX8 4-dr
(231), met black, 29k



£3,975

03 53 VW Passat 2.0 S
4-dr, met blue, 74k

Finance example

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35 Monthly payments
of £163.06
Final payment of £462.06
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Total amount payable
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*Photos are indicative only

Small Cars

- 03 03 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 5dr. Blue met, 47k miles, rcl, pas, e/w, cd £3,275
02 02 SUZUKI Wagon R 1.3 GL Special 5dr. Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, a/c, e/w, alloys £3,475
02 52 PEUGEOT 206 1.1 Met blue, 68k miles £3,475
05 05 CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr. Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, ew, pas, cd £3,965
03 53 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi 16v 5-Dr. Met blue, 65k miles £3,975
05 54 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 3-dr. Silver, met, 58k miles, rcl, pas, ew, cd £4,475
06 56 HYUNDAI 1.4 Getz GSi 3-dr. Black, met, 15k miles, rcl, ew, pas, cd £4,975
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus 5-dr, grey met, 39k miles, rcl, pas, ew, cd £5,775
04 04 FORD StreetKa 1.6 Luxury. Met black, 49k £5,975
04 54 TOYOTA Yaris VVTi 3-Dr 1.3. Met blue, 17k miles only, alloys £5,975
06 06 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 16v Enjoy 5dr. Met purple, 12k miles rcl, pas, ew, cd £5,975
07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life (a/c) 3-dr, grey met, 26k miles, rcl, pas, cd, ew £6,475
08 08 FORD KA 1.3 Zetec Climate 3-Dr. In white, 9,000 miles £6,475
07 07 CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr. Met black, cd, a/c, pas, 12k miles £6,975
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 Dynamique 3-dr hatch. Silver met, 24k miles, a/c, rcl, ew, pas, alloys £6,975

Family Cars

- 03 53 VW Passat 2.0 S 4-dr. Met. blue, 74k miles, many extras £3,975
05 05 RENAULT Megane 1.4 Rush 3-dr Silver met, 53k miles, alloys, rcl, a/c, cd £4,475
05 05 HYUNDAI Sonata 2.4 Auto Saloon, 4-dr, Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, ew, cd, cruise, full leather £4,975
05 05 FORD Focus 1.8 TDCi Zetec 3-Dr. Met blue, 76k miles, fully loaded £4,975
04 54 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 T3 Auto Met blue, 48k £6,475
06 56 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi **TURBO DIESEL**. Met red, 36k miles, pas, a/c £6,975
07 07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Dynamic 5dr. Met blue, e windows, rcl, 5k miles £6,975
07 07 PEUGEOT 307 Hdi 90SE **TURBO DIESEL**. Green/grey met, 38k miles, alloys, rcl, ew, cd, a/c £7,975
09 58 CITROEN C2 1.4VTR Met black, 9k miles £7,975

Sports & Executives

- 05 05 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.8 Sport. Met. black, 55k miles, fully loaded £4,975
05 54 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.9 CDTi SRI **AUTO** 5dr. Met blue, alloys, a/c, fsh £5,975
04 04 TOYOTA Celica VVTi. Met silver, 39k, S/H, sports pack, leather, sunroof, a/c £7,475
02 52 BMW 325ci Sport **AUTO** Coupe. Blue met, 72k miles, sand leather, alloys, a/c, rcl, cd £7,975
05 05 PEUGEOT 307 Convertible. Met silver, auto, 50k miles £7,975
04 04 MERCEDES SLK 200 Cabriolet **AUTO** Silver met, 59k miles, AMG Wheels, rcl, a/c, ew, must be seen £11,975
04 04 MERCEDES SL 500 Cabriolet **AUTO**. Silver met, 82k miles, leather, alloys, climate, cd, ew, rcl £19,975
06 56 BMW 335D **AUTO** 2dr Coupe Turbo Diesel. Grey met, 28k miles, full leather, cd, ew, a/c, stunning car £19,975

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- 01 Y RENAULT Scenic 1.4 Authentique, mpv, silver met, 60k miles, rcl, ew, cd, a/c £2,675
04 04 HYUNDAI Matrix 1.8 CDX MPV. Silver met, full leather, rcl, ew, cd £3,975
04 04 FORD Galaxy 2.3 **AUTO** Ghia MPV. Met silver, 90k miles, rcl, a/c, alloys, cd, cruise £5,975
07 07 MAZDA RX8 4-dr (231) Met black, 29k miles £9,975

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06 56 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Life A/C **AUTO** 5dr. Panacotta, only 4,900 miles
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06 56 FORD Fusion 1.6 Zetec Climate 5dr. Red met, only 2,000 miles
New £12,475 Ours £6,975 **Saving £5,500**
06 56 FORD Focus C-Max Zetec 2.0 **AUTO** 5dr. Met mintgreen, only 4300 miles!
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06 56 NISSAN Micra 1.2 Sport 5dr. Grey met, only 2,500 miles
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06 56 RENAULT Clio 1.6 Expression **AUTO** 5dr. Met blue, only 1760 miles!
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06 56 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 5dr. Met black, only 2500 miles!
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06 56 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.65 dr Life (A/C) Blue met, only 1,500 miles
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06 06 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique. Red met, only 4,500 miles!
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GEM sport

Barry Rugby Club cruise in a nine try bonanza

ONE for the record books! An entire game played with uncontested scrummages because the visitors could not field a specialist hooker in the front row.

Far from being criticised, the players and coaches of Deri should be applauded for fulfilling their fixture obligations under the most trying of circumstances.

The Reservoir Field lived up to its name last Saturday after enough rain had fallen over the previous few days to fill that water container several times over!

Barry's campaign has been based on tight forward domination but this was denied them by scrum and weather limi-

tations. There had to be a reappraisal of tactics and it was reassuring that the players readily adapted to the need to impose themselves in other areas.

With Ryan safe under the high ball and Evans making some progress in the centre, pressure was being built up on the Deri defence. This would have been much more telling without over-reliance on crash ball in the inside-centre position. Varying approach play makes life much more difficult for defenders.

However, continual attacking did produce results with a try by O. Brown, which was well converted by Cummings from wide out.

Barry signalled their intent by opting for line-

BARRY DERI

59 0

outs rather than taking shots at goal from penalties. This led directly to a further converted try on the stroke of half-time.

The second half was barely five minutes old when Barry created an excellent try by Gill, after some very aggressive running by forwards and backs with Provis and George prominent.

Barry were now obviously going to run the ball at every opportunity and cracks began to show in the Deri defence.

Deri's cause was not helped by first having a player sin-binned and

then losing another to injury. Deri, who had opted for uncontested scrums, could not bring on any replacements.

The game now ceased to be a meaningful contest and for the last half-hour Barry try scorers kept the scoreboard ticking over.

An outstanding effort by Cummings assured the home side of that valuable bonus point. H Jones got into the act with a good try from 20 metres for new kicker Lee to add the conversion.

The front row union were rewarded for some fine tight play when replacement Hollister

crossed for two tries from fully 25 metres out.

With forward domination total, the platform was created for Provis and D Evans to score the eighth and ninth tries.

Barry's remaining fixtures are: Saturday, April 10 St Albans (A); Wednesday, April 14 Canton (A).

Clubhouse news

Tickets are now on sale for the presentation dinner dance at the Memorial Hall on Saturday, June 12.

Tables from 10 seats upwards can be booked with Andy Jamieson 01446 411737. Remember to book early as tickets are limited.

CHRIS OXENHAM

SPECIAL NEEDS FOOTBALL IS A FESTIVAL HIT!

SOCCER-LOVING boys from **Headlands School** in Penarth were the winners of the Vale's first football festival for pupils with special education needs.

The boys topped the table after going up against teams from Ashgrove School and Ysgol Maes Dyfan in a tournament organised by the Vale Council's sports and play development team.

The council's Disability Sport Wales development officer, Simon Jones, said: "I'm really keen to increase the number of children playing football and to create links between local special education units so that further matches can be played."

The Vale has an established disability football team, The Vale Reds, who enter tournaments each month, while there is a regional disability football academy for players who show the potential to excel.

Teams such as The Vale Reds are helping disability football to prosper across Wales, and the numbers of play-



Headlands School (red) in action against Ashgrove's 'A' team (blue).

ers throughout the country is rising.

Simon Jones added: "Disability football is progressing enormously and events such as this festival are an excellent way for Vale schools to get involved."

"Hopefully links can be made between the Vale Reds disability foot-

ball team and all the schools in the Vale, so that there are clear pathways for disabled children to play football, improve their skill, and enjoy making lots of new friends."

To find out more, please call telephone Simon Jones on 01446 704728.

Tennis club makes plans for new season

A CAMPAIGN to get more people – of all standards – to enjoy playing tennis is being launched by Barry Tennis Club.

To mark the start of a new season an open day is being held at 2pm on Saturday, April 17.

A new tennis coaching scheme, an extended range of tournaments, and popular programmes – such as the club's 'rusty rackets' evenings planned for later in the summer – aim to cater for all levels of interest and skills.

The club is also organizing a quiz night for the evening of April 17, and is part of Barry Athletic Club at Paget Road, on Barry Island. Members can enjoy year-round tennis with its four all weather courts.

As part of its commitment to encouraging

new, young talent, Barry Tennis Club is offering a range of coaching programmes for young players from five years of age upwards, with the club's professional LTA licensed coach.

A number of junior tournaments will also be run throughout the year.

Its range of teams caters for all ages – youngsters to veterans – and different abilities.

Club chairman Harry Emery said: "We are aiming to build upon last year's success. We welcome new members – the good, the bad, and the rusty – as we are committed to enabling all ages and levels to play, enjoy and improve their game."

For further details about Barry Tennis Club please call 01446 412352 or e mail: barrytennis@ntlworld.com or visit the club's web site at

www.barrytennis.co.uk.

Injuries give Barry Seconds a mountain to climb at Tondur

AFTER having their home league fixture against Rumney cancelled at the last minute, Barry found themselves back on the road with a trip to Tondur.

With several players missing, it was expected to be a tough task and so it proved.

Straight from the kick-off, the home side showed their dominance by breaching the Barry defence, and but for some superb last-ditch tackling, there would have been an early score.

Barry, however, were unable to clear their lines and Tondur duly scored an unconverted try.

Tondur continued with some slick back moves and clever kicking, but Barry refused to lie down, despite some enforced substitutions.

Good carries by John Haskell and Andrew Houldley bought some hard-earned yards, while

the tackling was solid, led by captain Kyle Case, Nick Rolfe and substitute Chris Chucas.

Tondur indiscipline eventually allowed Barry a shot at goal, but unfortunately Ashley Adams was unable to convert.

The home side came right back and exploited a huge hole in Barry's defence at a scrum to saunter across for another unconverted try.

Adams had another shot at goal from a penalty, but pulled it wide, leaving the half time score at 10 – 0.

With more Barry players coming off injured, the situation was looking bleak, especially when Tondur scored soon after the restart to go 15-0 up.

A fantastic break on the left, however, involving Ashley Forrester and Luke Bounds, set up a platform for John Dimond to grubber through for Joel Williams to score his third try in as many games.

The former Maltese international Dimond

was unable to add the extras.

When hooker Lee Turnbull limped off halfway through the second half, Barry were unable to field a front row and therefore scrums became uncontested. From one such set piece, the hosts increased their lead, as the ball was spun out wide for them to ground in the corner.

The conversion was missed again, but with the last play of the game Tondur did get a converted try, resulting in the 27-5 score-line that did not do justice to the effort put in by the away side.

Team: Bounds, R Williams, Harris, D Williams, Adams, J Williams, Dimond, Houldley, Turnbull, Sullivan, Haskell, Tobin; Case (captain), Hitchcock, Rolfe. Substitutes used: Chucas, Manley, Taylor, Forrester, Chow.

Man-of-the-match: Chris Chucas.

KC

Bowling club to recruit

BARRY Central Bowling Club is holding a recruitment day at the Gladstone Gardens green on Sunday, April 25 from 2.30pm.

Experienced bowlers or novices are welcome.

WE welcome your sports items. Please email them to: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

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